the latest ISSUE

volume three
issue four

FREE

mid-august
ninety-one

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Lavender Library, Archives
and Cultural Exchange
Sacramento, CA
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SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

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THIS

really !!! I MUST SAY!

Don't Delay Join the Fight

Just when you think the weather has cleared, the wind shifts. Gay and lesbian activists, on the brink of winning a major legislative victory with the likely passage of AB 101, now will have to regroup, and fight another series of battles mounted by the fundamentalist fascists of the Traditional Values Coalition (TVC).

The TVC, partly conceding the potential success of the state gay rights bill, is collecting signatures and raising cash to promote an initiative repealing all existing protections for gays and lesbians, including the Consenting Adults Act of 1975, which legalized homosexuality in California. It would also mandate that all future protections be approved by a 2/3 majority.

While it is certainly easier to sit by and expect activists to fight our battles for us, now is the time for EVERYONE to become involved, by donating time, money and energy to take on a fight that we must not lose. We cannot, as a community, return to the repressive days when it was illegal for us to simply love one another.

the latest ISSUE staff

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Victim of Mismanagement?

Dear Editor,

As a former member of the Lambda Community Center board of directors, I have to agree with your article about the Lambda Center: it has been the victim of mismanagement. After the death of Tim Warford, and an interim director, the board picked what I would consider to be two consecutive failures. Both of them lost the confidence and trust of the board in short order. Much to my chagrin, I had supported the hiring of both directors. Any employer will recognize that not all new hires will succeed or be worthy employees. I can only hope that the third time is the charm.

You indicate that the board is self-perpetuating and of the same mind. Not so, many meetings have been long and loud, the discussions filled with diverse opinions and viewpoints.

Now is the time for the Center and the community to pull together. The center needs a competent and honest director - one in which the community and the board can place their complete confidence and trust. One that is dedicated to the survival and growth of the Center. In the meantime, it would be nice if the local gay/lesbian organizations and businesses would provide the much needed assistance to the Center. They are not alone in troubled financial waters: KVIE and the Sacramento AIDS Foundation have fallen on hard times. I'm sure there are many more.

We must not lose the Lambda Community Center while we sit on our hands.

Respectfully submitted,
Willis L. Bennett

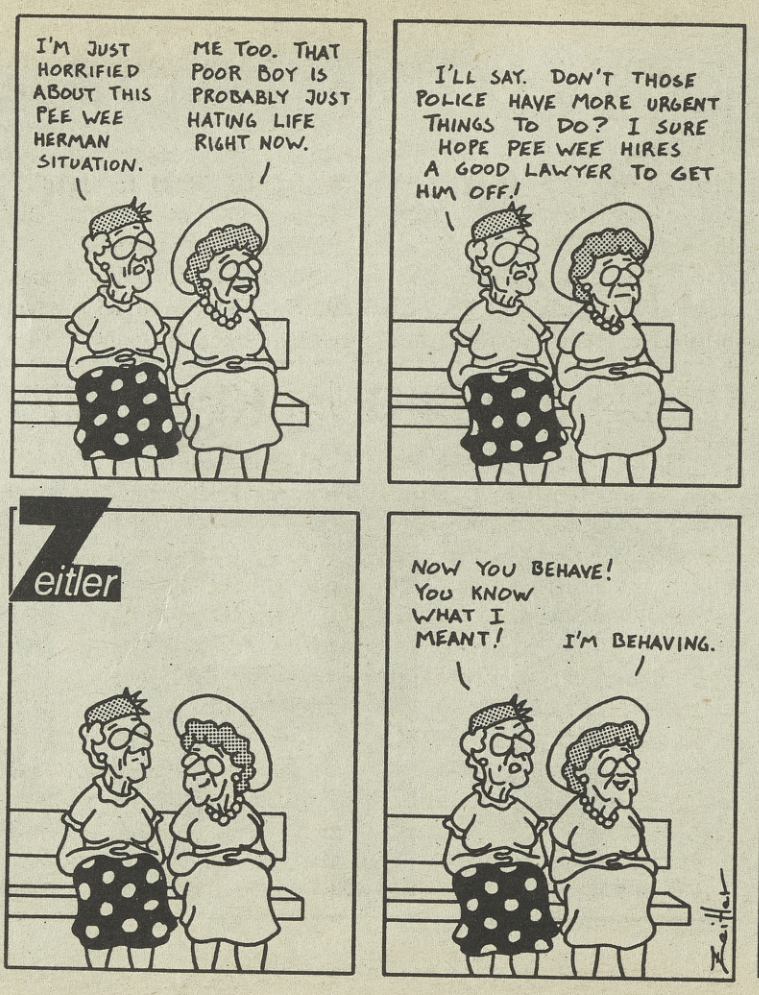
Heterosexual Thanks

Dear Editor,

I want to take a moment to thank Stacy Selmants for the hilarious article she wrote in the last ISSUE urging the gay community to try and accept heterosexuals despite their obvious flaws and drawbacks. It's one of the cleverest pieces of writing I've seen in a long time.

I'm a bit jealous that I can't write funny stuff, and really appreciate it when I see it. The topic was especially meaningful since I fall into that category myself (at least, I'm fairly sure of it...); I always appreciate a good laugh, and Stacy certainly provided me with one this time!

Sonya Cox
MGW AIDS Editor


I'M JUST HORRIFIED ABOUT THIS PEE WEE HERMAN SITUATION.
ME TOO. THAT POOR BOY IS PROBABLY JUST HATING LIFE RIGHT NOW.
I'LL SAY. DON'T THOSE POLICE HAVE MORE URGENT THINGS TO DO? I SURE HOPE PEE WEE HIRES A GOOD LAWYER TO GET HIM OFF!
Zeitler
NOW YOU BEHAVE! YOU KNOW WHAT I MEANT!
I'M BEHAVING.

Fiery Warning for City Officials

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank all the fire fighters who fought 'our' fire on J St (5/29/91). In the heat of battle, these men and women took the time to cover some of our equipment, minimizing our losses. These fire fighters are the same people who had come out so many times in the past for fires at the same address. Most of the merchants who lost their businesses will eventually open elsewhere, without any assistance from our city officials or agencies. Some will never re-open.

In the past, the police department responded every time we merchants called for assistance due to the 'old Army, Navy Store', and/or the homeless. The fire department responded every time an alarm sounded.

Now our city officials can rest, because their problem (the old Army, Navy Store) has been taken care of, by others. It was easier for them this way.

The morning of the fire, I found out that the fire department has only 2 "snorkels", the trucks that are used to put water on highrise fires. What frightens me, and should worry all downtown merchants, is that our city officials have decided to retire one of those snorkels. With all the new highrise buildings being built, we are in for quite a show. One that will affect many more than the J Street fire.

Continued on page 12

LETTERS!

The latest ISSUE welcomes letters on any subject. Be sure to include your name and phone number for verification. We will not print your name if you wish to remain anonymous.

AROUND TOWN

Gay Rights Activists Fight Double Battle

by **Stacy Selmants**

During the next few months, proponents of gay and lesbian rights will be fighting double politial battles with conservative fundamentalists: propelling Assembly Bill 101 through the Capitol while simultaneously attempting to combat the threat of a statewide initiative to repeal all current gay rights.

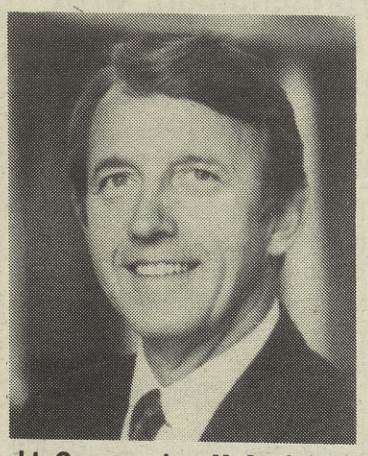
AB 101, the gay rights bill that would prohibit discrimination in employment and housing, nears passage, and is expected to be up for a vote before the Senate Appropriations Committee when the Legislature reconvenes on August 19. However, four of the Senators (Beverly, Davis, Mello and Presley) on the committee have been targeted for last minute lobbying, and

> It not only would repeal all existing laws and ordinances protecting the rights of gays and lesbians, but would require all new gay rights legislation to be passed by a 2/3 majority.

the necessary votes for passage have not yet been guaranteed. Senator Leroy Greene, who represents most of Sacramento, supports the bill, but more supportive calls and letters from his district are needed. (916-481-6540.)

The LIFE lobby-- the primary sponsor of the bill-- is gearing up for both the Appropriations Committee vote, and for the final vote when the bill reaches the floor of the Senate, which is expected to occur in late August, assuming the bill passes out of committee. The Traditional Values Coalition (TVC)-- the loudest and most powerful opponent of the bill-- has been viewed as taking a more passive stance on the bill, except to use it as a tool for its continual fundraising efforts. Lou Sheldon, the head of the TVC, sent out a mailer in mid-July asking for an additional $25,000 for this month's efforts, above their normal operating budget, "to fight the devastating things this legislation does."

Political insiders agree that the leaders of the TVC have tentatively conceded the potential passage of AB 101, and are rechannelling both energies and funds into a different kind of assault. At the same time the final push for passage of AB 101 is happening, the LIFE lobby, as well as many other gay rights supporters, such as Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy, are preparing to fight the proposed statewide initiative, which would repeal all local and state gay rights legislation.



Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy.

Sponsored by the TVC, the initiative would amend sections 3503 and 3513 of the State Elections Code. It not only would repeal all existing laws and local ordinances protecting the rights of gays and lesbians,

Continued on page 10

The Rainbow Flag's Colorful History

by **Dorothy Mason**

With the coming of the Rainbow Festival in Sacramento this Labor Day weekend, it is timely to explain the history and meaning of the Rainbow Flag.

We can see the Rainbow Flags waving in full glory each year atop the Civic Center buildings during the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade, on local businesses and homes, and even on the State Capitol for National Coming Out Day.

The heritage and meaning of the Rainbow Flag is best presented in an article in the *Evolution and Adoption of the Rainbow Flag in San Francisco* by James J. Ferrigan, III.

San Francisco is the home of the original Rainbow Flag. In 1978, the Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day Parade committee called for a symbol which could be used every year to give consistency to gay and lesbian activities. A local artist, Gilbert Baker, created the Rainbow Flag to stand as the symbol for the gay and lesbian rights movement.

According to Mr. Baker, "the first Rainbow design had eight horizontal stripes, from top to bottom: hot pink for sex, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sun, green for serenity with nature, turquoise for harmony and violet for spirit."

Over the years, the colors of the flag and the numbers of stripes have changed. The hot pink and turquoise colors were eliminated and indigo was replaced with royal blue. The six stripe configuration of the present day Rainbow flag was born. Other cities such as New York, Houston, Vancouver and Toronto began to fly the six striped flag during their parades.

In 1985, it was proposed that the Rainbow Flag be adopted as the International Gay and Lesbian Pride Flag.

The popularity of the Rainbow Flag has spread world

Continued on page 4

Rainbow Festival Kicks Off

The 6th Annual Rainbow Festival is being held on Labor Day Weekend, August 29 - September 1, as a benefit for the Lambda Community Center and Hope House.

The four day event begins with a "Kick-Off Party" at Faces, Thursday, August 29th featuring Empress XVII Stacey and Jo Tierney, Ms. Sacramento Leather 1988-89.

Bonnie Pointer of the "Pointer Sisters" will be the featured performer in the Big Top Tent behind Faces at 11 p.m. on Friday night August 30st.

JJ Van Dyck will be the opening act Saturday night, August 31st with headline performer comedienne Lois Bromfield. 11 p.m. is the scheduled show time.

The main event is the Rainbow Fair on Sunday September 1 with a full day of entertainment, food, art displays and informational booths on 20th Street.

Pennies for AIDS

by **Miles Kerley**

Bring your pennies to the Rainbow Festival to benefit the new "Pennies For Life" program.

The program under the direction of the Performing Artists for AIDS Related Charities (PAARC), will benefit people with AIDS in Sacramento.

The original Penny Project in San Francisco, started four years ago and has raised over $400,000 in pennies. Hoping to follow in San Francisco's success, Mr. Sacramento Leather, Randy Gray contacted Michael Coffey, who is the director of the project in San Francisco. Guidelines for coordinating volunteers, participants and collections were shared by the San Francisco project even though the two are completely independent "They have had four years to make it run right. The bugs are out." said Grey.

Donation containers will be placed at local businesses, much the same as the March of Dimes. However, instead of dimes it targets only pennies. To many people, pennies are a nuisance with no meaning whatsoever, but when tens of thousands of pennies are gathered, they will allow men and women with AIDS to live better lives.

Continued on page 10

Beginners Guide to Understand Reapportionment

COMMENTARY

The intricacies of reapportionment -- what constitutes fair reapportionment, what is the true nature of democratic representation, what would really make the system work, and which system exactly are we talking about? -- makes potent material for intellectual masturbation.

And any serious debate of the subject is necessarily good practice at cognitive dissonance and the art of rationalization. Which is why most of the uninitiated would prefer to balance our checkbooks with an abacus rather than wade through the definition of reapportionment.

But this year especially, with so much talk --- and hope -- of a gay district, it is imperative that our community understand what this all-important decennial occurrence is, and what the consequences are.

Definition: Reapportionment is the process whereby the Legislature adjusts the boundary lines of electoral districts -- Assembly, Senate, Congressional, Board of Equalization -- to equalize the population figures residing within each district. That is, each district should have nearly the same number of people in it.

But even if this primary goal is accomplished, it does not necessarily make reapportionment fair. In the art of creating new reapportionment maps, every stroke of the pen has political consequences. District boundary lines can be drawn to nearly guarantee electoral victory to certain constituencies -- a political party, a political ideology, and ethnic group, religion, even a particular candidate.

This poses an inherent conflict of interest for legislators, who are specifically mandated to create new district boundary lines, but whose job security is intrinsically connected to just where those lines fall.

A reapportionment plan that is drawn to favor a political party, or other targeted group, at the expense of preserving communities of interest is called a "gerrymander." The Democrats masterfully exploited this concept in the 1980's when they controlled both the Legislature and the Governor's office. The plan that was finally passed and implemented increased their majority in the congressional delegation from 22/21 to 28/17.

Is that fair? Maybe not to a wealthy, white Republican. But what about the less educated and less wealthy citizens, or certain minorities, who

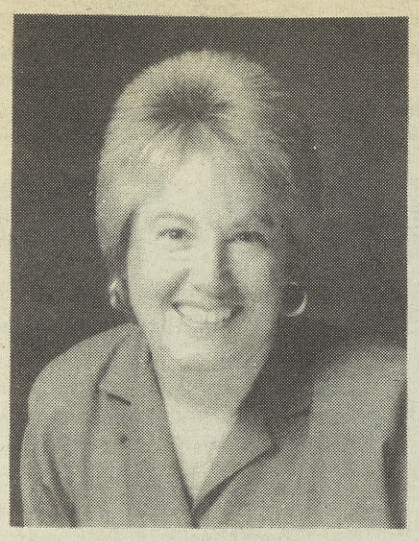
Continued on page 8

WHO WILL IT HURT WHEN I DIE?

A Seminar on Probate and "Living" Trusts
presented by

NAN GOODART

A teacher and counselor for fifteen years, now a successful attorney in Sacramento, Nan is presenting her immensely popular estate planning seminar, at no charge, just for the lesbian and gay community.



IF:

--you've been wishing for a way to blend your lives in a tangible, legally recognized way,

--writing a Will is about all the legal work you think you need to do,

--the story of Sharon Kowolski horrified you but you've done nothing to assure it won't happen to you,

--the "stuff" you own is worth more than $60,000 before subtracting what you owe on it,

--you would like to help your parents plan so that taking care of them and their affairs will be as easy as it can be ... for them AND for you, or

--you wouldn't know a "living" trust from a dead one,

THEN DO NOT MISS THIS SEMINAR!!!

Take advantage of this event. Bring your friends. Nan and her assistant, lawyer Theresa Boschert, will tell you what you need to know--and answer all your questions--about Wills, probate and "death taxes," incompetence, powers of attorney, and "living" trusts, with just our special relationships in mind.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1991
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

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Sacramento

Space is limited; to assure a seat, or for further information, call 422-1404.

Gay & Lesbian

Business Alliance

by **Michael Sestak & Dan Palomino**

A new social group has hit Sacramento with a BANG! Making its debut on June 20, 1991 at the Townhouse, is the Business Alliance of Networking Gays (BANG).

BANG is an openly gay/lesbian group which is open to anyone who ethically and responsibly owns or represents a business.

Ideas from Sara Myers, Kevin Cohee, Garret Madderra and other members of the business community came together to create BANG.

With hopes of improving on the now defunct River City Business Association, this group seeks to build a strong alliance of gay business owners.

The purpose of the group is to share business ideas and common concerns, to support member businesses and to nurture and promote the visibility of new businesses. In developing a strong networking association, an increase in the flow of goods and services within the gay/lesbian community will enhance the effectiveness of the gay dollar.

Unlike other social business groups such as Pillars, the consensus of the group at this time is to remain a-political. Throughout discussions it appeared that members wished to remain focused on economic issues rather than indulge in a political agenda.

Managing a growing roster of names and businesses, group leaders plan to develop the list into a comprehensive directory of goods and services. Attendance is required at a meeting to qualify for a listing. One of the goals of the group is to eventually interact with the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce and the business community at large.

With attendance nearly doubling at each meeting, this type of organization is needed and wanted. The current membership is nearly 45 people, and is open to both gay men, lesbians and supportive straight members of the community.

The next monthly meeting will be held at Joseph's Town & Country on August 20, 7 p.m. The topic for discussion will be "What Led You To Your Career of Today?" Joseph's Town & Country will also host the September 19th meeting. "Does Extra Schooling Help?" will be the discussion topic.

For more information about BANG please call 457-3269.

FLAG

continued from page 3

wide and continues to grow with each passing day. Locally flags are showing up on office buildings, homes, cars and of course the Rainbow Festival. So be proud, wave a flag of strength, unity and spirit.

Rainbow jewelry, table flags, decals and other pride triangle symbols can be purchased at the "Be Proud" booth *at the Rainbow Festival Street Fair on Sunday September 1 at 20th on K Streets. 10% of purchases at the booth go to benefit the Lambda Community Center. For more information call (916) 756-8033.*

Rainbow Realtors Give to House

Sacramento Rainbow Realtors is sponsoring a "needs" drive for Hope House. The following are items requested: cleaning items; sponges, dish soap, laundry soap, bleach, Lysol, Comet. Toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap (Dial only), hand lotion, disposable razors, shaving cream, anything else used on a daily basis. Also requested are colorful bedspreads (for twin beds) to brighten up the residents' rooms.

Please contact Nick Jardine at Zephyr Realty at 442-1478 or Rick Oldham at Bankers Mortgage 924-6677 if you have any questions. Nick has offered Zephyr Realty, 730 Alhambra Blvd. at H St., as a drop off point for donations.

Thank you for your support of Hope House!

You're Invited to the Ducal Ball

On Saturday, August 24, 1991, at 7pm, on behalf of CGNIE, Inc., Grand Duke XI Gene and Grand Duchess XI Racine invite you to attend A Masked Ducal Ball, "Spirits in the Night." The Ball will be held at the Tuesday Club, 2722 L Street, Sacramento, 448-7259. Admission is $15.00 per person.

Additionally, on Thursday, August 22, 1991, at 7pm, an "In Town" Show (a variety show featuring local performers) will be presented at FACES, 2000 K Street, Sacramento, 448-7798. Admission is free.

And on Friday, August, 23,1991, at 11am, a Victory Brunch will be held at the Clarion Hotel in the Terrace Room, 700 16th Street, Sacramento, 444-8000. $10.00 per person.

All these events are part of Ducal Ball '91, "Spirits In The Night," A Masked Ball. (The majority of the performers are female impersonators.)

Also, on August 17, 1991, balloting for the new Grand Duke and Duchess (XII) will occur at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street between the hours of 11am & 8pm. Proof of age (18 or older) and residence in Northern California is required.

City Councilman to Address RCDC

City Councilman Joe Serna, Jr. who represents Oak Park, Curtis Park, Hollywood Park and neighboring areas, will address the River City Democratic Club Monday, August 19, on "How To Meet Sacramento's Biggest Challenges."

The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Sierra 2 Community Center, 2791 24th St. a few blocks south of the Department of Motor Vehicles office.

A major force in local politics, Serna has been a member of the city council for ten years. He is Chairman of the Transportation & Community Development Committee, Chairman of the Sacramento Sports Commission, and a member of the Law & Legislation Committee.

1st Year of Black Men's Xchange

Black Men's Xchange held its first annual national conference and retreat in Los Angeles, July 12-14. "This year's retreat was designed to refocus the BMX by gathering the leaders from throughout the state together to evaluate our progress and to assess our mission and goals which are to continue our emphasis of support, empowerment, and healing of the black men who love men" said Greg Coleman, Chair of the host chapter, BMX Los Angeles.

"With the fruition of two new chapters, Denver, Colorado and Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the establishment of BMX headquarters in Oakland, California, BMX is now able to forge a national agenda of black gay empowerment," said Joe Hawkins, Chair BMX/Sacramento. Oakland chair, Hopeton Stewart, is optimistic stating, "I am confident that we can, as an organization, remain focused and true to the vision and continue to strengthen our ties with the black community." Cleo Manago, founder and organizer of the BMX, was on hand to express the philosophy and goals of the organization stating, "BMX is Afrocentric (black in concept, design and implementation) and takes a holistic approach, designed to aid in healing the external as well as the internal wounds that years of denial and unacceptance has caused us to heap upon ourselves."

For more information about BMX call the national headquarters at (415) 839-9138.

The Rose Tatoo at MCC Theater

River City MCC's "The Off Broadway Theater Group" in cooperation with "The Downtown Center Players" is presenting, "The Rose Tattoo" each Saturday evening of August and the last Thusrsday in the month (August 3, 10, 17, 24, 29, 31) at 2741 34th Street (Braodway & 34th St). Show time is 8pm and tickets are $7 for adults and $5 for seniors and students.

"The Rose Tattoo" is a play based on the establishment vs. the underdog segements of our society, a test of faith, and lack of love for our fellow human beings in our society.

Cast will receive no pay for this production. All proceeds will be donated to charities for AIDS (River City AIDS Center and Hope House) and for the hungry and homeless of Sacramento (RCMCC's Food Closet and providing the 4th Thursday meal at Loaves and fishes).

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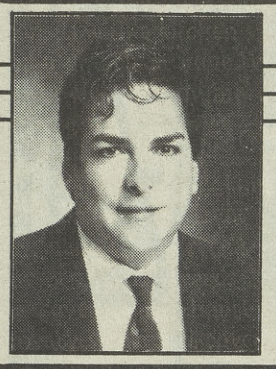
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Moment of Touch is a Sensual Playground

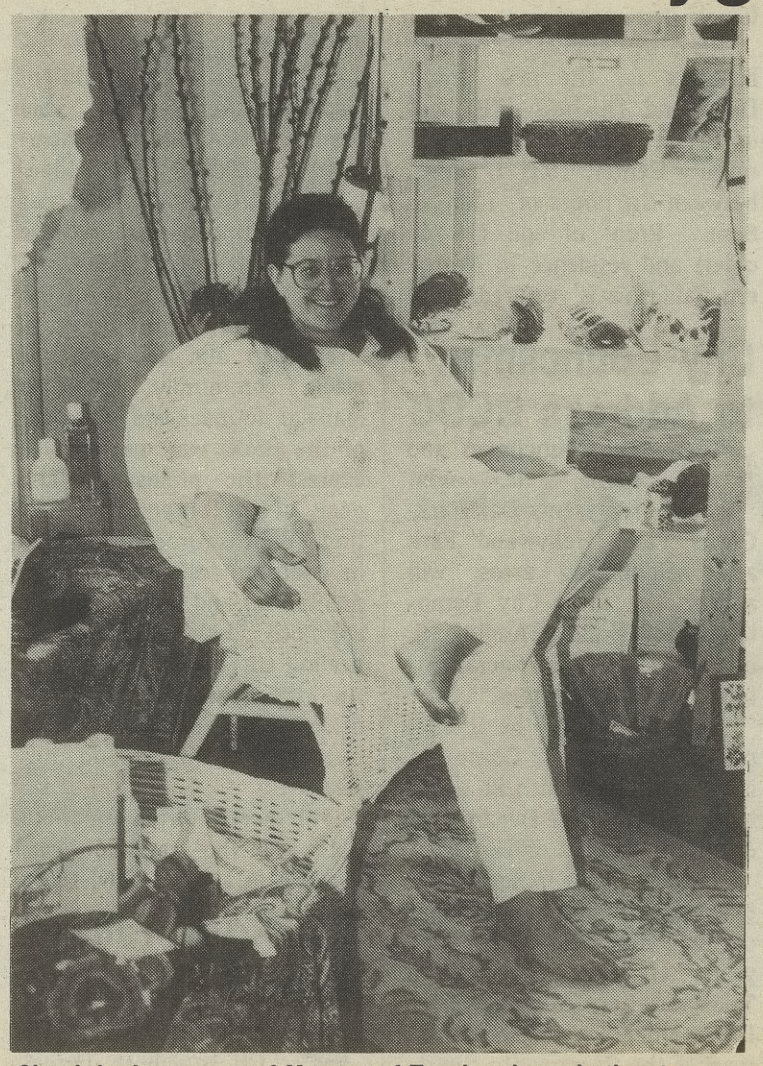
by **Sara Myers**

With its intriguing window display of lacy lingerie and cool, cotton pants, Moment of Touch beckons from the street. Serious shoppers and wandering walkers are equally fascinated by the carefully arranged jumble of wares, all offered as an appeal to the senses.

The sunny, shelf-lined walls in the front of the shop offer hand-crafted jewelry, natural soaps and lotions, aromatherapy books, and massage oils.

The back room though, seems to act as the customer magnet. After careful examination of the goods up front, most shoppers, assuming a studied air of indifference, wander toward the back of the store. There, the lovely lingerie, baskets of silk underwear, and vases of ostrich feathers vie with several antique armoires for attention. No, the armoires are not for sale, but tastefully displayed within them are a fascinating array of sex toys.

Sherri Jordan, creator and owner of Moment of Touch, set out to offer products not previously available in Sacramento. After completing training as a Certified Massage Therapist, Jordan was surprised to discover that no outlet for professional massage products existed here, and began to dream of her own shop.



Sherri Jordan, owner of Moment of Touch, relaxes in the store.

With the realization that many Sacramentans, especially lesbians, made regular trips to San Francisco to purchase sex toys in a safe and pleasant atmosphere, Jordan's dream grew larger. She saw a natural progression from products designed to appeal to the pleasure of massage to those created to enhance the joy of lovemaking. Sherri was convinced that if she could offer these goods in nurturing, and romantic surroundings she could keep the San Francisco shoppers in town.

All of her dreamy plans came to sudden fruition when Laurel's, the store Sherri had managed for years decided to close up and merge with another location. With the sudden availability of the prime "J" Street shop, Jordan decided it was time to make her dream a reality. In two short months she planned, designed, shopped, ordered, painted, and opened to a great response in April.

The success of Moment of Touch can be attributed to the fact that it is a true embodiment of its owner, a woman of great warmth, strength, diversity, and love. Sherri finds it useless to try to buy for the generic customer, a folly which would result in an impossible hodge-podge of goods. Instead, she shops for products that please her, or would use or wear herself.

The result is a store stocked with a great variety of goods that seem undoubtedly, yet somehow mysteriously related. Sherri's love of ritual as "sensuality being grounded in earth" leads her to stock ceremonial rattles, Native American drums, and smudge sticks. Her interest in massage explains the variety of massage oils, tools, and tables. Her desire to provide a calming place to shop results in a table stocked with a variety of soothing essential oils.

And while Sherri is content to let her customers wander alone, examining oils and soaps and thumbing through books, it is her tremendous warmth that makes shopping at Moment of Touch such a pleasure. When asked about any product on the well-stocked shelves, Jordan comes alive, cheerfully sharing information with her customers.

And her enthusiasm carries through to the back of the shop, as well. She discusses safe sex as easily as hand-crafted jewelry, and offers information in a direct and comfortable way. In fact, Sherri says that "helping people feel more comfortable with their sexuality" is one of the most rewarding parts of her job.

As a complement to its retail products, Moment of Touch offers an array of workshops. Planned for the coming months are classes in ceremonial rattle making, foot massage, couples massage -- with separate sessions for gay men, lesbians, and straight couples, and an erotic art show and poetry reading.

As if all this is not enough to keep Jordan on the run, she plans continual changes and improvements in Moment of Touch. Her goal, she says, is to provide an atmosphere that "takes people's breath away when they walk in, someplace that they not only want to spend a lot of time, but have to."

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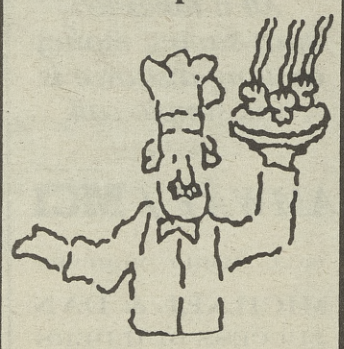
"Scrumptious"



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452-1829

the latest NEWS BITS

Police Posed as Gay Were Bashed

HOUSTON - To quell a tide of violence directed against gays, Houston police officers have taken to the streets of a downtown neighborhood posing as potential victims, with results that have startled even gay leaders who have called for increased protection for years.

Since the decoy program, thought to be the first of its kind in the country, was begun a week ago in the neighborhood, three undercover officers have been attacked, and 13 people have been arrested.

Two officers posing as a gay couple were sprayed with Mace hours after the program began, and another undercover officer was beaten with a baseball bat.

Police said both attacks were by groups of young men from outside the neighborhood who thought their victims were homosexuals.

The decoy program, which members of the gay community helped the police develop, arose in response to the July 4 beating and stabbing death of a 27 year old banker Paul Broussard.

As Broussard and two companions left a gay bar, they were chased down by 10 young men wielding boards and knives. One of Broussard's companions escaped and the other was wounded, although not critically.

Ten men, most from an affluent suburb, have been indicted in Broussard's slaying.

The Houston Police Department fell under heavy criticism after homicide detectives initially said there was no evidence the attack was a hate crime, a statement they later retracted.

Sacramento Bee

Immigration Laws Still Bar HIV

Washington D.C. - After failing to achieve agreement on whether to allow immigration and visits by foreigners who are HIV positive, the Bush administration has slam-dunked the debate over the issues into the gay, AIDS, and health communities' court.

Infection with the HIV virus will remain classified as a "communicable disease of public health significance," thus barring newcomers and nine-year U.S. residents with visas or amnesty from establishing citizenship.

"There is no reasonable basis whatsoever for this policy" said Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, America's largest gay, lesbian, and AIDS lobby. "President Bush is damning scores of people with AIDS and their loved ones with no justification at all."

Gay, lesbian and AIDS activists are considering whether to seek consensus on whether to overturn their call for cancellation of the Eighth International Conference on AIDS set for Boston in 1992 and called, ironically, "A World United Against AIDS." "Alot of people are actually rethinking whether we can suggest they go ahead with the conference as a platform in the middle of a presidential campaign to really highlight the issues," said Jeff Levi, government relations director at the AIDS Action Council.

In a Florence, Italy, face-off at the seventh session June 19, members of ACT UP forced Dr. Max Essex, chair of the next conference to cancel the Boston event unless Bush officials backed down on both immigration and visitor visas.

Pentagon Offical Outed in D.C.

On June 28, ten to twelve activists from the newly-formed Washinton D.C. chapter of Queer Nation gathered in front of a local gay nightclub to kick off a city wide poster campaign intended to expose the alleged homosexuality of head Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams.

Queer Nation's Michael Petrelis, a D.C. activist known for his controversial tactics, charged "Pete Williams, an openly closeted gay man, hypocritically, remains silent in his job as Pentagon spokesman while the Department of Defense continues its irrational policy of ejecting thousands of gays and lesbians from the armed services."

The Department of Defense discharges up to 2,000 service people a year based upon a long-held but increasingly discredited policy that "homosexuality is incompatible with military service."

Southern Voice

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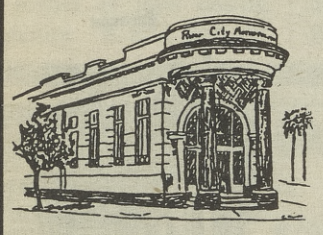

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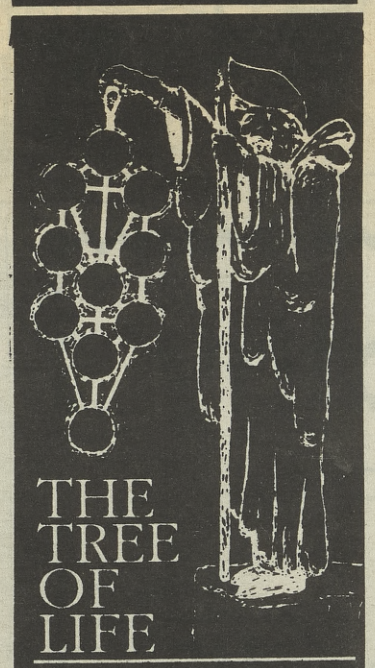

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REAPPORTION

continued from page 4

often don't vote in representative numbers? Don't they never-the-less deserve representation in our democratic government? Has it not been the Democrats who have better represented and protected the less enfranchised?

Already this year, both the Assembly and Senate committees on Elections and Reapportionment have been holding hearings around the State. Those hearings, sans draft maps, primarily served to help define the specific locations of communities of interest. But this month, additional hearings will be held with the proposed maps available for public scrutiny. These hearings provide opportunities for public input into how the new boundary lines should appear.

At the Senate committee hearing in San Francisco, members of the gay community lobbied for a gay district, one which would contain the majority of the City's gay community and would therefore be able to elect a gay candidate. There is a similar battle being waged in the southern half of the State.

Something to consider is whether the individual best able to represent a specific constituency must necessarily be a member of that constituency. For example, sometimes an aware and sensitive man can better represent feminism than say, Andrea Dworkin, an angry, vicious activist who turns off as many women as men.

Another example might be a particularly respected, mainstream legislator who can swing votes on issues pertaining to underdog communities, whereas a newcomer who, although might be a member of an under-represented constituency, would be far less effective in advocating for that same constituency. Who will be the better representative?

When we vote for a candidate because of the color of their skin -- or simply based on their sexual orientation -- it can be called nothing other that discrimination. I hope our community will not be guilty of the same crime from which we are demanding protection.

Perhaps our efforts could be better spent lobbying against the safe districts that elect our most loathed enemies -- devout members of the religious right. By reducing the number of clearly safe Republican seats, we can inject competition into their races. The outcome would at minimum be more moderate candidates willing to listen to all members of their constituency, rather than to promote only the extreme views of religious radicals.

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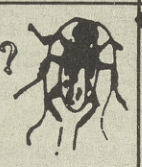

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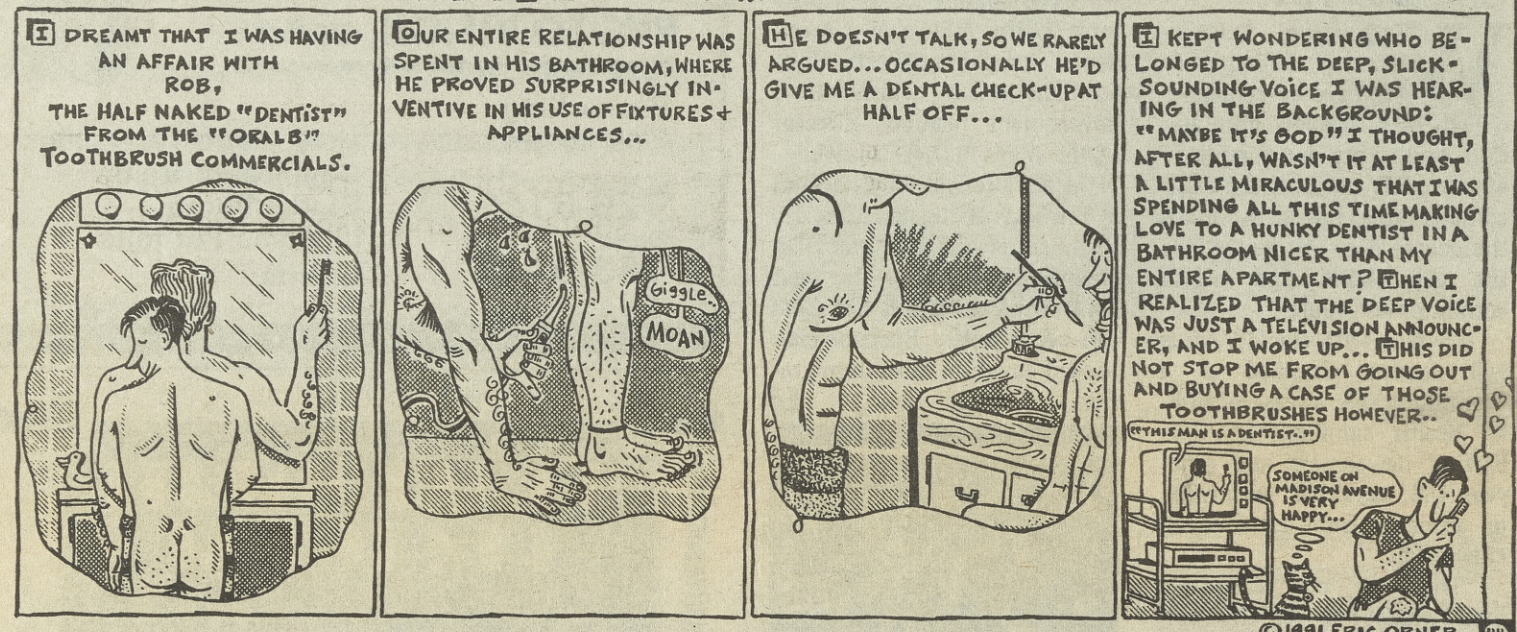
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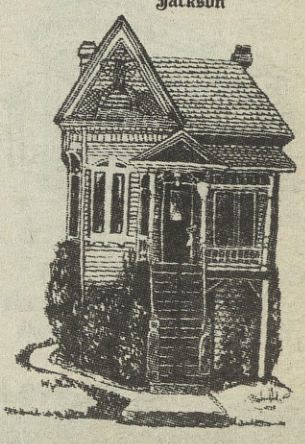


getting OUTTA TOWN

HIV+ Health Care Workers Face Potential Penalties

by **Garret Madderra**

The U.S. Senate led by Jesse Helms, (R. N.C.), overwhelmingly approved legislation to impose criminal penalties on health care workers who know they are infected with the AIDS virus but do not tell their patients before performing invasive procedures.

The July 18 vote in favor of the bill was 81 - 18. If enacted into law, HIV infected health care workers could be sentenced to prison for 10 years or fined $10,000.

A second amendment offered by Senate leaders of both parties and approved 99 - 0 requires states within one year of enactment of federal law to enact their own laws implementing July 12 Center for Disease Control guidelines that called for voluntary testing for the HIV virus by health care workers that perform invasive procedures.

In July, 1990, the federal Centers for Disease Control reported the first case of possible transmission of HIV to a patient from a HIV infected health care worker. Since then, with the help of widespread media coverage, the public has expressed deep fear and concern about allowing infected workers to continue performing medical and dental procedures that involve risk of transmission, however slight, to patients.

Rink Foto

Jesse Helms.

Historically, the CDC has specified that infection-control programs should incorporate principles of universal precautions, i.e., appropriate use of hand washing, protective barriers including gloves, masks and eye protection, and care in the use and disposal of needles and other sharp instruments.

While continuing to sup-

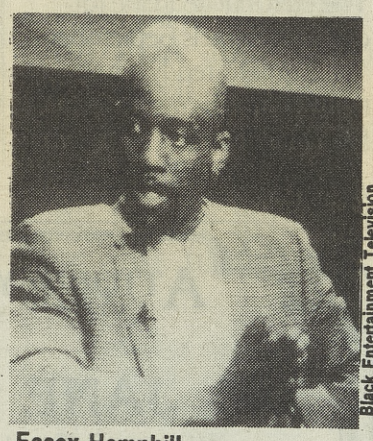
Continued on page 22

"Tongues Untied" Controversy

by **Miles Kerley**

Local station KVIE was one of the few enlightened public television stations that allowed its viewers to choose whether to watch the controversial documentary "Tongues Untied."

Produced by Marlon Riggs, a black gay man who is HIV+, "Tongues Untied" is the first video shown on public television that depicts the existance and experiences of black gay men. The video features obscure frontal male nudity, scenes of men kissing and profanity. It also features



Black Entertainment Television

Essex Hemphill.

the work of Essex Hemphill, editor of "Brother to Brother, An Anthology of Black Gay Writers." Due to the content of this documentary, only 95 of the 341 national public television stations chose to air the program.

"Tongues Untied," has received numerous awards including best documentary at the Berlin International Film Festival, best video at the New York Documentary Film Festival and best independent/experimental film by the Los Angeles Film critics. Controversy also revolves around indirect support from the National Endowment of the Arts in 1988 through the Western States Regional Fellowship Program. The amount of the grant was $5,000.

Marlon Riggs' purpose is contained in the title "Tongues Untied," that is, that black gay men have historically been silenced in the culture and have been demanded to pay a price of silence and invisibility to be accepted as black men in America.

According to Riggs in an interview on *Black Entertainment Television* "whether or not America is ready for a film

Continued on page 22

Global Activists May Fight for Gay Rights

by **Chris Narloch**

Picture this scenario - you invite some gay and lesbian friends over for a party in the privacy of your own home. Your homophobic neighbors get wind of the gathering, and soon there's a knock at your door. The police enter, and before you know it, you've all been arrested and your friends have "disappeared."

Slapped with some ridiculous charge (say, unlawful assembly) or held without any charge at all, you spend months or years rotting in a filthy prison. There you may die from a combination of torture and starvation.

No, this type of punishment doesn't take place in the United States, obviously. But in some countries around the world, gay people can be subjected to severe persecution of this sort by their own governments. If you think the U.S. is short on gay rights, count your blessings: yes, we still have a long way to go, but we're far ahead of much of the rest of the planet. In some countries, homophobia is so deeply rooted in their cultures that even the idea of gay rights is non-existent.

Luckily there is a group called Amnesty International (A.I.) with the power to take on a problem as difficult as gay persecution. A.I., you may already know, is the non-profit organization whose goal for the last thirty years has been to fight human rights violations around the globe (it was started by a lawyer, Peter Benenson, after he saw an

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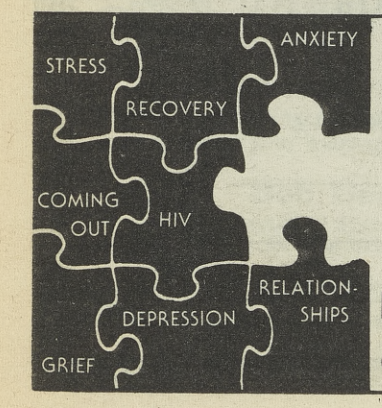

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PENNIES

continued from page 3

The Pennies Project will award grants to people who have been diagnosed with AIDS or debilitating ARC on limited incomes. The grants will have yearly limits and can be renewed annually. Individuals in the Sacramento County area may apply for a grant. The boundaries have yet to be finalized but may include Yolo and Placer counties.

An applicants income cannot be in excess of $800 per month. Grants will not go directly to the applicant, however checks will be issued to the creditors. The grants will be used for utilities, such as PG&E, medical and pharmaceutical bills, insurance premiums, rent and security deposits. All checks will be issued from the fund to the service provider, or in the case of a landlord with a stipulation that when the tenant moves the deposit will be returned to the fund. If a person has roommates, the utilities will be divided by the total number of people living in the household. In this way, the fund will be helping those who really need financial assistance.

Volunteers are needed to compose the rest of the board members, as well as volunteers for distribution, collection, office assistance and accountants, virtually every phase of the program. "Volunteers, donations and office supplies are needed to get this worthy project off the ground. We are scrounging what we need, desks, chairs, filing cabinets, and of course, penny wrappers," said Gray.

The Pennies for Life kick off event is the Rainbow Festival Fair on August 31. Bring those penny jars, cans, rolls and piggy banks to their booth at the Fair. A contest will be held to guess the number of pennies it takes to fill a five gallon water bottle. Prizes include a Kodak 35mm camera, lunches at Americos and other surprises.

Because numerous charities have been in the news lately with allegations of mismanagement and funding problems, records for the Pennies for AIDS Project will be open to public scrutiny. Policy will allow interested parties to review the records. However, the clients names will not be made available. "They can see collection records or whatever they want, however, the program must ensure the complete anonymity and privacy of the clients."

Anyone interested in working with Randy Gray on the Pennies For AIDS Project should call 863-2518 ext AIDS (2437).

INITIATIVE

continued from page 3

but would require all new gay rights legislation to be passed by a 2/3 majority. This change, from a majority vote, would effectively kill all hopes for new statewide legislation, as well as dooming many local ordinances.

One existing statute and two pieces of pending legislation which are the most endangered by this proposed initiative are AB 409 (The Consensual Sex Act of 1975) which legalized homosexuality between adults; AB 101; and Senate Bill 98, which would toughen "hate crimes" penalties statewide, sponsored by McCarthy.

The TVC has until December 23, 1991 to collect the 615,958 valid signatures necessary to place the initiative on the June 1992 ballot, which should not be difficult, since the TVC can mobilize the energies of thousands of fundamentalist churches statewide.

McCarthy has vowed to take an active, public stance on the issue, and recently held a press conference with leaders of the LIFE lobby to pledge his support to enlist the aid of other elected officials, minority communities and churches to unite against the initiative.

McCarthy sent out early warning signs when he said, "This initiative provides open season for discrimination, no matter who you are...This initiative goes against everything I have always stood for in government...If by some chance it does worm its way onto the ballot, we will continue to take it on full force. I am confident we will win."

DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is September 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by September 5th.

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HIV POSITIVE

CDC Revises AIDS Diagnosis Guideline

by **Arturo Jackson III**

HIV-positive individuals with T4 helper cell counts less than or equal to 200 will meet newly revised AIDS diagnosis guidelines being implemented by the Centers for Diease Control in January 1992.

The current CDC AIDS definition, last revised in 1987, is based primarily on the clinical disease syndromes identified and reported manifesting in thousands of HIV immune suppressed gay men over the past ten years. The revised AIDS guidelines will measure the degree of immune suppression by the extent of T4 helper cell loss and will no longer rely solely on clinical disease diagnosis. "This allows cases to be reported at the first laboratory sign of severe immunodeficiency," stated Dr. James Curran, director of the AIDS division at the agency's National Center for Infectious Diseases. "That's the time when people are in severe need of medical care and services," the director added.

The current listing of illnesses that defines an AIDS diagnosis has long been criticized for failing to include HIV disease manifestations now known to be common among HIV-infected women and intravenous drug users with impaired immune health. "This change is the essence of simplicity," said Dr. Gary Noble, deputy director of the CDC's division of HIV. The deputy director continued, "Immune deficiency is the underlying problem regardless of which illness or opportunistic infection arises from it."

"The revised CDC guidelines will be emotionally dramatic for people with HIV infection," stated Dr. Sandra Hernandez, director of San Francisco's Public Health AIDS Office. The director added, "Overall, hearing an AIDS diagnosis has been a positive reinforcement encouraging many individuals to adopt healthy lifestyle changes and to take action." Dr. Hernandez emphasized, "For many though, learning to accept an AIDS diagnosis remains a very difficult change and health professionals must accept and anticipate crisis intervention as people learn to cope."

The revised CDC guidelines will initiate other agencies to re-examine their own AIDS defining guidelines. Phil Gambino, spokesperson for the Social Security Administration stated that the federal agency will publish new regulations this fall eliminating automatic eligibility for individuals diagnosed with AIDS. New Social Security guidelines will dictate that anyone with an HIV-positive result and applying for benefits will be required to have a physician complete a form detailing their condition and explaining why the applicant is disabled.

According to Dr. Curran, the broader CDC definition could add 150,000 to 200,000 to the U.S. AIDS caseload. The ability to identify individuals earlier in the HIV spectrum of disease will improve their opportunities for access to available medical care and treatments as well as utilize benefits for which they are eligible to receive.

ddI Receives FDA Recommendation

by **Arturo Jackson III**

Experimental AIDS drug ddI (Dideoxyinosine) was recommended for FDA approval by a federal advisory panel for individuals with HIV infection no longer benefiting or able to tolerate AZT.

Following two days of hearings, the Food and Drug Administration's Antiviral Drug Advisory Committee announced its opinion on July 19 based on "surrogate markers". The panel members hope that these markers will ultimately prove to be accurate indicators of potential drugs effectiveness and validate the innovative federal drug approval process implemented by the panel's recommendation regarding ddI.

The panel members based their recommendation on research findings which indicated that ddI initiated a rise in CD4 cells, also known as T4 helper cells in ddI study participants when compared with study volunteers taking AZT. The drug ddI is similar in chemical structure to AZT, the only FDA approved antiviral AIDS drug. Potential serious side effects associated with ddI include painful nerve damage to the feet and pancreatus, an inflamation of the pancreas. In almost all cases, the side effects are reversible upon early detection and stopping treatment with the drug. Serious signifcantly different side effects associated with AZT include anemia and abnormally low white blood cell counts, upon approval ddI will offer those no longer able to take AZT a viable treatment option. According to the FDA,

Continued on page 22

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LETTERS

continued from page 2

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Ducal Ball Candidates

Dear Editor,

It has come to our attention that of the 5 persons who presented themselves to the "Review Board" of C.G.N.I.E. as a pre-requisite to their candidacy for the title of Grand Duke and Grand Dutchess, only one person was determined as qualified to be placed on the ballot for the offices.

We have between us served on 17 separate review boards and although neither of us chose to be in attendance on this date it is inconceivable to us that 80% of those applying were not fit to be presented to the community for their decision as to who will represent them. When you also consider that 2 of the 4 applicants now rejected have been approved by prior review boards, it comes to mind that this was an election rather than an attempt to screen out those persons who would be unable to represent the Capitol of California with dignity.

We therefore submit that in the absence of irrefutable evidence, provided to the community, showing that these 4 people are not suitable to represent us that the "Review Board" should reconsider their decision and let the people of Sacramento, Chico and Redding decide who will represent them in an open and fair election.

Sincerely,
Emperor XI & XII
Chuck Thornley
Empress XI
Yvette N. Alley

Big Money, Wrong Place

Dear Editor,

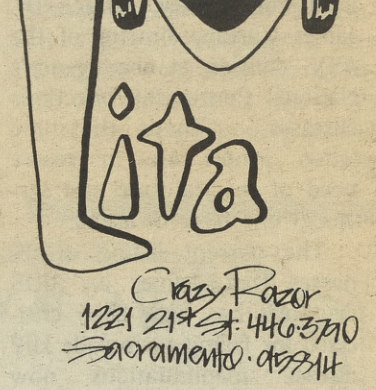
In these times of recession, financial hardship, and non-existent government support for the AIDS Foundation, Hope House, and other organizations of support for our community, I find it a bitter pill to swallow when I hear that a "Ducal Ball" will be thrown to the tune of thousands of dollars. This nonsense is exacerbated by the fact that there aren't even any candidates.

One can only conclude that this "Ball" is nothing more than an elaborate and extremely expensive stepping down for the current Duke and Duchess.

I cannot tell you how angry I feel when I think that money given to our court in the name of charity is now being spent on someone's self indulgent whims. How can any "charitable" organization justify this type of improprietous expenditure?

It would seem to me that anyone who claims to be for the community would rather see the money go to the Foundation or the Lambda Center or even Hope House than have the money spent in such a frivolous manner. I would hope that the exposure of this debacle will insight the community to rage and demand a full accounting of CGNIE's production and financial practices.

Geoffrey Steig



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MIND & BODY

Using Affirmations

by **Tom Romanotto**

What are affirmations and how do we use them? An affirmation is a statement of the way we want things to be in our life, they can be written or stated verbally.

Webster's Dictionary defines "affirm" as, "to declare positively." In the study of metaphysics it is said that the subconscious mind is energy without direction, so what we tell it, will be produced in conscious reality.

For example if we tell ourselves this is going to be another bad day, we are affirming that what we choose to have is another bad day. If we tell ourselves that this is going to be a really great day, then we are telling our unconscious that we are ready to experience a great day. It seems that with the latter attitude it is easier to look at little problems as little challenges instead of little horrors.

When we listen to what we tell ourselves throughout the day, it is surprising to hear the many negative messages that we reinforce about ourselves, others and life itself. To use affirmations successfully, one must be conscious of the internal statements of our experiences. "Gee, they don't like me" or "I look ugly" or "I'm not worthy of love." Before I knew about affirmations I would get up in the morning and say "oh God another day," now when I get up I say "I give thanks for this perfect day!"

Using affirmations is an acquired and individual process. Some people write out positive reinforcing statements daily, others decide on an affirmation that will assist in achieving a particular goal or emotional state, and they repeat the supportive statement silently to themselves all day long. Some of my favorite affirmations are: I love and approve of myself. I trust the process of life. I am safe. I am a reflection of God in love, health and peace. I have perfect work, in a perfect way. I give perfect service for the perfect pay.

Those are just a few ideas for affirmations. Anyone can make up their own to fit their needs. Sometimes it takes practice to start giving ourselves new messages, but we can do it.

Steven Koppes

Steven Koppes, a delightful friend to many, passed away July 19 at the age of 34. He was a pioneering member of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation's Hand-to-Hand Program as the United Way Loaned Executive, and a rousing baritone with the Sacramento Men's Chorus.

"We are radiant energy, dancing playfully through life, effortlessly, effectively and lovingly, and all we have to give and receive is love," was the standard he lived by. He continually gave from the heart without being asked, touching many lives as he passed.

Steve was Hand-to-Hand's first practical support applicant, the first practical support interviewer, and the first practical support volunteer to be matched with a client. He was a long time facilitator (instructor) with Hand-to-Hand's volunteer training program, conducted weekly support sessions using the principles of attitudinal healing and supported the values of The Experience. He will remain in the hearts of the hundreds who knew him as their friend as well as their teacher.

He leaves behind his parents, Alan and Joan, three brothers, and his beloved partner, J.P. Eres III. Steve also leaves us with cherished memories of his radiant energy and bountiful love, his playful personality and sparkling smile, his goodness and his strength, and he will be sorely missed by those who had the pleasure to know him.

Massage is Good Medicine

by **Lynn McNeal D.C.**

The art and science of therapeutic massage has been with us for centuries.

Recorded evidence of its use goes back to the times of the ancient Greeks, and probably earlier. The laying on of hands for aiding the sick has been used in countless cultures, based on the belief of the healing powers of the human touch.

Massage therapy has been defined as the manipulation of soft tissue for therapeutic purposes. Massage therapists are employed by chiropractors, physical therapists, sports medicine clinics and orthopedic rehabilitation centers. Many individuals practice individually.

The certification of massage therapists differs from state to state, and also on the county and city level. They are required to have a certain number of in-class hours and sit for examination and certification. They are not licensed with the state in the way that dentists, medical doctors, chiropractors, and osteopaths are.

The list of problems helped by massage is very long. Among them are sports injuries, chronic musculoskeletal headaches, post-whiplash soft tissue injuries, post-surgical adhesions and muscle guarding, chronic muscle stiffness secondary to osteoarthritis, lymphatic drainage for edema, jaw problems from muscle imbalances...the list, of course, is much longer than this.

Every massage therapist has a different style and approach. There are up to twelve different types of strokes and several types of areas in which a massage therapist might concentrate. One of the types most commonly heard of is Shiatsu, a Japanese term meaning finger pressure. It incorporates the disciplines of therapeutic massage with medical acupuncture, and was developed over 40 years ago by Tokujiro Namikoshi. Although this type of hands on therapy has gained wide popularity in the United States, it is by no means the only or preferred form of massage. Only experience and varied exposure to the many types of massage will dictate which massage is most beneficial to

Continued on page 20

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August

15 thursday

Auction by La Kish at the Mercantile Saloon. Benefit starts at 7 p.m.

Sacramento Music Circus presents **La Cage aux folles** one week only For ticket info call 441-3163. **August 12-18**

Jerome Robbins' Broadway, will be performed at the Golden Gate Theater, 1 Taylor St. in San Francisco. For ticket info call 415) 441-0919. **Aug 14-Sept 8**

California Exposition & State Fair, at Cal Expo, showcase for culture, entertainment, commerce agriculture and creativity. For more info call 924-2032. **Aug 16 - Sept 2.**

The Barbary Coast Cloggers will be dancing at River City MCC to benefit AIDS Charities. They will also be dancing at the State Fair. **Aug 16-18 & 24**

THURSDAYS

Being Gay Today, 9pm on cable 18. One hour of lesbian & gay programs from around the country & beyond.

Women's Coming Out Group, wheelchair accessible, childcare available, 6 -7:30pm at the Lambda Center. For more info call 442-0185.

GLAS (Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Sacramento),meets in the CSUS Social Science building, room 236, 8:30 - 10p.m. for more info call 456-3469 or 927-8661.

Being Alive Living Room, 2pm. A HIV + support group sponsored by the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St.

16 friday

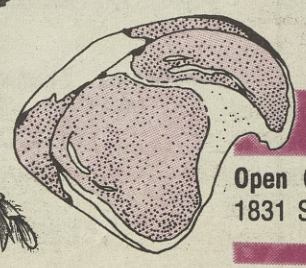
Capital City Squares Hoedown, Square dance for experienced Mainstream and Plus Level dancers. $5 donation, no partner needed. Coloma Community Center, 46th & T St, 7:30 - 10pm For more info call 447-2271.

Aaron Fricke (author of "Reflections of a Rock Lobster") will be reading from and discussing his new book, "Sudden Strangers" at Lioness Books 2224 J St., at 7:00 pm.

Apple Hill Harvest Festival, in Placerville, 40 family ranches selling produce and gifts, for more info call 621-5885. **Aug 16 - Nov 1**

The Kathy & Mo Show: Parallel Lives, has been held over (again) until Sept. 1 at the Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St, Floor 2M, San Francisco. For ticket info call 415) 433-9500.

SACWN Presents: **Lesbian "Love Connection"- The Dating Game & Newlywed Game** with Maureen Gaynor. 6:30pm-10 pm at the Clarion Hotel,16th & H St, Tickets $8 - $14, for more info call 486-8985.



SATURDAYS

Open Grill and Beer Bust, at the Buff, 1831 S Street. 3 - 7 p.m.

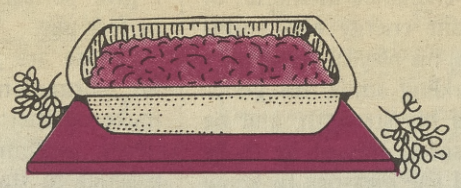
FRIDAYS

Country Western Dance, 7:30 p.m in the activity center of River City MCC, 34th St and Broadway. For more info call 454- 4762.

Youth Group, at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St, 5:45|pm. A gathering for gays and lesbians 21 and younger.

17 saturday

"Canto II-An evening of L.A. Chicano Performance Poetry", at Luna's Cafe, 1414 J St. 8pm, $5 admission. for more info call 446-5133.



"Parallel Lines" a benefit for the Lambda Community Center. Two buffet lines at the Center and the Mercantile Saloon. 12 - 5 p.m. $5.00. Donations of Casseroles and Salads requested. Call 444-7855.

Oak Park Concert Series presents: **The Duke Ellington Band, John Heartsman, & Reggie Graham Quartet,** from 11:30am-6:00pm. Free in McClatchy Park at 33rd St. & 5th Ave.

Sizzlin' Summer Sounds, Big Band concert at McClatchy Park from noon-6pm. Free

18 sunday

Leo Party at the Mercantile Saloon hosted by Robin, Jim Maxwell, Timmy and Jacki. 4-8.

Gay Softball League, games begin at noon at 21st & C St. For more info call 451-5996

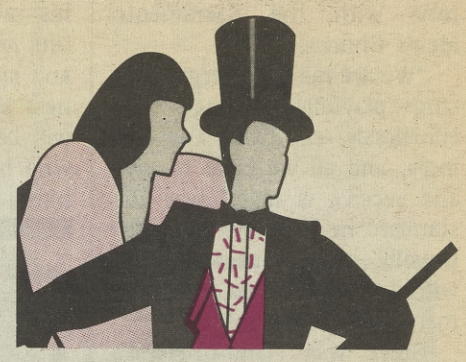
Barbary Coast Cloggers, dance to benefit PAARC's AIDS Emergency Fund at FACES in the evening.

SUNDAYS

Tea Dance at Faces! 3 - 7 p.m., Free BBQ at 5 p.m., Country Western dancing at 7 p.m.

19 monday

River City Democratic Club with special guest City Councilmember Joe Serna. Meeting starts at 6:30 at Sierra II. For more info call 394-3103.



Sacramento Music Circus Presents: Duke Ellington's **Sophisticated Ladies,** one week only under the tent. For ticket info call 441-3163. **Aug 19 - 25**

MONDAYS

Women's Rap & Social, 7pm at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St. For more info call 442-0185

Men's Coming-Out Group, Co-sponsored by GLAS and the Lambda Community Center 5:30 - 7p.m. For more info call the Lambda Center, 442-0185.

Brother to Brother, HIV+ support group for Black gay/bisexual men. 7:00-9:00pm at 3501 Broadway. For more info call 441-0949.

September

1 sunday

39th Annual **Begonia Festival "Flights of Fancy",** in Capitola Village, Capitola. For more info call 408) 476-3566.

Bobette's Famous Tacos to benefit Hope House. Mer cantile Saloon 11 - 3 p.m.

Gay Softball League games begin at noon at 21st & C St. For more info call 451-5996

3 tuesday

"Environment Showcase" by Donna LaBaugh will be displayed at the Lite Rail Gallery, 918 12th St. For more info call 441-1013.

Sept 3-14

5 thursday

Rainbow Real Estate Professionals meeting at Shakers on Broadway. 11:30 a.m. For more info call Jayne at 921-6642 or Jake at 484-6630.

6 friday

Chautauqua Playhouse presents **Neil Simon's FOOLS,** a comedy, fairytale farce. For more info call 489-7529. **Sept 6 - Oct 13**

Lady Cathay performs the last show of her campaign for Miss Gay Gow-girl at the Western 7 -9 p.m.

20th Anniversary of the River City Metropolitan Community Church. Special events all weekend. For more information call 454-4762. **Sept. 6, 7, & 8**

7 saturday

Sacramento Symphony

Opening Night of the Sacramento Symphony's 1991 - 92 Season, at the Sacramento Community Center Theater. For ticket info call 649-0300.

ARCHIVAL FRAMING

A reception for artist **Margaret Maye** will be held at Archival Framing, 1729 L St. from 7-9pm. Ms. Maye's "Oxford Serier" will be on display through Sept. 28. For more info call 444-9624

8 sunday

Gay Softball League playoff games begin at noon at 21st & C St. For more info call 451-5996.

14 saturday

1st Annual **Lesbian & Gay Day at Candlestick,** a benefit for the Shanti Project. San Francisco Giants vs. San Diego Padres. 1:05pm, Upper reserved seats, $7.00. For more info call 415) 777-2273

15 sunday

Gay Softball League championship game begins at noon at 21st & C St. For more info call 451-5996.

LOCAS (Latino/as Organized for Cultural Awareness) and **Paul and Stacey** present a night of Latin Entertainment at the Mercantile Saloon. Call 447- 0792.

19 thursday

BANG (Business Alliance of Networking Gays) meeting at Joseph's Town and Country. Call for more info. 457-3269.

20 friday

SACWN Presents an **Intimacy Workshop** by Sonika Tinker M.S.W. and Debra Rain. Call 486- 8985 for details.

22 sunday

21 saturday

Folsom Street Fair One wild event in the center of the gayest city in the world!

26 thursday

3rd Annual **Lavender Waves Retreat,** for Lesbians in all forms of recovery. For more info call 503) 563-3643.

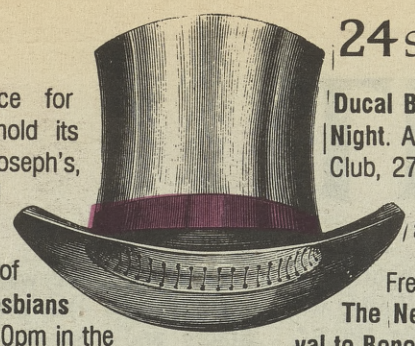
Sept 26 - 29

28 saturday

The Sonoma Waves to Wine Bike tour, to benefit Multiple Sclerosis. For more info call 415) 268-0572 or 800) FIGHT MS.

Sept 28 & 29

20 tuesday



BANG (Business Alliance for Networking Gays) will hold its monthly meeting at Joseph's, for time and info call 457-3269.

The Sacramento Chapter of **Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays** will meet at 7:30pm in the Christian Education Building of St. Mark's Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way. For more info call 665-0150.

Chili Dogs at the Mercantile 11 - 3 p.m. by Lady Cathay.

TUESDAYS

Being Gay Today, 10pm on cable 18. One hour of lesbian & gay programs from around the country & beyond.

Heart to Heart, mens discussion group at the Sacramento AIDS Foundation from 6:30 - 8:00pm. For more info call 448- 2437.

Volleyball! Interested in playing volleyball? Call Daryl Rice at 442-4641.

21 wednesday

"Women's Night At CARES", addressing specific issues and concerns for women with HIV infection. 7 - 9pm CARES 2710 Capitol Ave. For more info call 443- 3299.

WEDNESDAYS

"Let's Talk" support group, a.k.a. Queers with Fears, for gay & Bi-men 7pm -8:30 pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Wed. of each month) at CARES, 2710 Capitol Ave. for more info call 443-3299.

22 thursday

Sacramento Symphony will perform a free concert in McKinley Park at 7:30pm

The Windows Theatre Troupe from Davis will perform **"Paganoia",** a musical mask dance satire about censorship, homophobia and the C.I.A., to benefit conscientious objectors. 8pm at the Unitarian Universalist Society at 2425 Sierra Blvd. A $5-7 donation requested.

24 saturday

Ducal Ball 1991 - Spirits in the Night. A masked ball at Tuesday Club, 2722 L Street, tickets $15. An Evening of Fantasy and Illusion.

Freeman Events presents: **The New Helvetia Music Festival to Benefit Friends of the River.** 11am-9pm Helvetia Park, 20500 Old River Road, West Sacramento. Tickets $10.50, available at Spirit Records. For more info call 321-3529.

Golden State Gay Rodeo Association-Bay Area Chapter is havin' **Chili Cook-off,** to benefit ARIS, a AIDS/ARC support group in Santa Clara County, 1pm - 6pm Club St.John, 170 W. St. John St in San Jose.

Capital City Squares new member hoedown , learn how to square dance, free, no partner needed. 7-10pm at the Coloma Community Center, 46th & T St. For more info call 447-2271

25 sunday

Gay Softball League games begin at noon at 21st & C St. For more info call 451-5996

27 tuesday

Male Strippers, LIVE at Joseph's Town & Country, 10:30pm. Join them for a Hot August Night!!

Sacramento Music Circus Presents **Tommy Tune in Grand Hotel, the musical.** at the Sacramento Community Center Theater. For ticket info call 442-7827.

Aug 27 - Sept 1

28 wednesday

Lil Bit of Country a benefit perfomance by Lady Cathay at the Western 7 - 9 p.m.

29 thursday

12th Annual West Coast Women's Music & Comedy Festival in the mountains near Yosemite. For info contact Robin Tyler Productions, 15842 Chase St. Sepulveda CA 91343 or call 818) 893-4075.

Aug 29 - Sept 2

31 saturday

Rainbow Festival Street Fair! 10a.m. - 5p.m. on 20th St between K and L in Sacramento. Booths, games and entertainment.

RUMOR HAS IT

There are fundraisers everywhere in this town! The fundraising follies surrounding the **Lambda Center** have been amazing! People are really pulling together to make the Center work. The special screening of **"Paris is Burning"** at the **Tower Theater** was a smashing sell-out success August 8th. Queens were standing in line all the way down the street as old ladies in pill box hats stood in astonishment! Rumor has it, over $4,000 was raised from the show.

Brenda had an event to benefit the **Lavender Angels** (the superheros of the gay community) on August 4th at the **Mercantile Saloon.** Over $300 dollars was raised at that event.

A new restaurant **"Central City"** is having an evening of food August 17 to benefit the **Sacramento AIDS Foundation.** $25 buffet includes dinner and an opportunity to hob nob with the big wigs. Speaking of "big WIGS" - **Stacey and Paul** along with the **Sacramento Leather Association** had another fundraiser on August 11 "Night of Your Favorite Fantasies." Some of the proceeds went to benefit the **Lambda Community Center** and the **Fairy God Father Fund** and the **SLA.**

The **Rainbow Real Estate Professionals** are currently working to help supply **Hope House** with all of the necessities of life. This group of giving business people are stepping from behind their desks and reaching out to people in need. See the Newsbit on page 5 to find out how to give to **Hope House. Hope House** also benefitted by the incredible success of **Art Attack II** at the **Townhouse.** The event organized by **Dexter Smith** raised over $4,000. Rumor has it. . .all of the gay bars in town are going to make a commitment to help pay the **Lambda Center's** rent with donations of $100 per month, per bar. Also the bars are working together on another project - security on 20th Street. It seems **Lee Dohm** of the **Sacramento Police Department** asked **Sonny** of the **Western, Bill Christie** of the **Mercantile** and **Terry Sidie** of **Faces** to foot the bill for two additional security people on the street Friday and Saturday nights. All agreed and they lived happily ever after, (and so do we.)

20th Street will come alive on Labor Day Weekend for the 6th **Annual Rainbow Festival.** Entertainment for the weekend includes **Bonnie Pointer, Lois Bromfield** and **JJ. Van Dyke.** The Fair on Sunday will be a great day of food and cruising. Yes, this is a benefit for **Hope House** and the **Lambda Center!**

God, I am sick of fundraisers. Let's go on to birthdays and anniversarys now. Low stress, no guilt, no money out of your pocket, unless you know these people (time to run out to the Hallmark shop!) **Rick Oldham** and **Dave Antonelli** celebrated 6 years together on August 6. When **Rick** let

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August Book Feature
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us know about the anniversary he said "I fall more in love with Dave every day." Oooooh. **Patti Barcena** celebrated another year of living in August as did **Marghi Myers.** August

Marghi (Fishead) Myers.

18th the **Mercantile Saloon** is having a **"Leo Party"** hosted by **Robin, Jim Maxwell, Timmy** and **Jacki.** Be there and celebrate these wild folks living another year.

Duchess Racine and **Duke Gene** with celebrate their year being monarchs on August 24th at the **Ducal Ball.** The **Tuesday Club** has been rented for the event and tons of people (literally) are expected to attend from out of town. It is questionable how many people from in town will go since the royal seats vacated by **Racine and Gene** will have no replacements. There were however five candidates for the titles of Duke and Duchess, but only one was "qualified." **Al,** the qualifing Duke candidate decided not to persue the seat for "personal reasons." Other candidates, **Helena Holliday, Alta, Shondra, and Bill** were disqualified. Well, I guess its better to have noone than someone who wants to hold the title, huh? Hot topic. See

Shondra.

letters to the editor for more.

Jim Walker - ex-editor of **Mom Guess Who?** is off looking for more in the wild blue yonder. Word on the streets is **Jim** wants to be a "stew" for **United Airlines.** He's blond - he qualifies.

One of the most talented lesbian writers in the world has returned to Sacramento (avoiding the United Airlines at all cost). **Dell Richards** is back and she's not alone. It seems **Dell** left **Jeanine** back in Idaho and has returned with a new woman on her arm. Next month...the mystery woman

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ENTERTAINMENT

Lambda's "Jerkers" Shocks and Entertains

by **Stacy Selmants**

After the initial rude shock wore off from watching two men authentically simulate masturbation for several hours, we settled in to watch the disturbing, yet riveting, Lambda Players' production of "Jerker," by Robert Chesley.

Warnings that the production contains "nudity, strong sexual language and explicit sexual situations," may not prepare the audience for the graphic, "guerrilla theatre" treatment of two men's growing relationship, in the era of AIDS, via repeated phone sex.

The actors, Tobias Maxwell (as J.R.) and Brian Douglas (as Bert) do a credible job with a somewhat murky, self-indulgent script, where the symbolism is obvious and overdone. Douglas is likable and boyish in his portrayal of Bert, who fondly remembers the carefree, reckless days, when raucous sex with strangers was the way to declare sexual independence. Maxwell, as J.R., the brooding, elusive Viet Nam vet, presents a strong portrayal of a lonely man denying his pain.

Neil Treganza, the director, does a good job with minimal facilities, especially when considering that the theater (aka the downstairs meeting room) at the Lambda Center redefines the word, "intimate." Directing repeated "jack off" scenes presented an obvious challenge-- which is humorously alluded to in the program. However, there were noticeable pacing problems toward the end of the piece, which could have been alleviated by cutting some of the redundancies in the dialogue.

While not for everyone, if audiences can transcend the shock value of the setting, "Jerkers" is strong, thought provoking and a promising indicator that the Lambda Players are growing as a company. (Now, if they could only get a bigger theater!)

"Jerkers" plays Saturday and Sunday nights at the Lambda Center, through September 1, and curtain is at 8:15. Tickets are $8 in advance, and $10 at the door. Reservations are strongly recommended.

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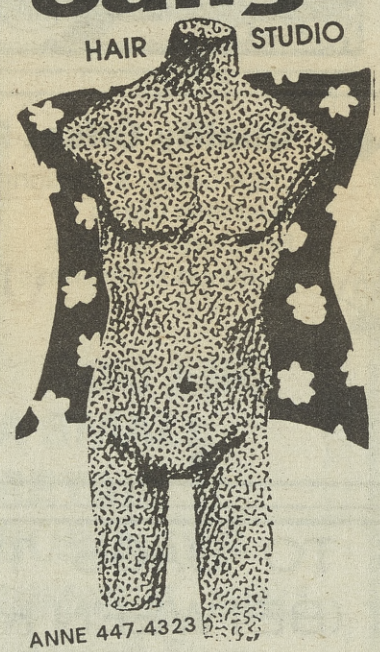

ANNE 447-4323

A Music Review

One Good Reason

by **Miles Kerley**

One Good Reason is the first solo attempt by Mark Weigle, who is currently living and performing "Men's Music" in the Bay Area.

I gladly accepted this assignment because I had read two previously written reviews about Weigle's music. The headlines stated "Weigle's songs celebrate gay pride," and "Singer Hopes Recording Will Be Start Of Movement For Men's Music." I got really excited after reading these articles. I am all for gay pride and the women have their music -- why not the men? I have every album by Romanovsky and Phillips, and if they don't sing about gay pride and the "Men's Movement," stuff, you may as well call me straight.

On my way home from a meeting, I plugged the tape into my truck stereo and got ready to get behind this gay pride and men's music movement stuff. I listened to all of the songs and wasn't sure that the acoustics in my truck were working. The guitar playing was good.

When I got home I played it on my sound system and thought, well, the singing is okay, but maybe I'm not in a receptive mood for this kind of stuff. The next morning, I plugged the tape into my sports walkman while soaking and reflecting in my spa reading the lyrics from inside the cassette jacket. Inside held depressing lyrics, and little else.

Men's Music has potential to express the thousands of emotions we as men experience. "One Good Reason" to listen to someone else.

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AMARETTO FRENCH TOAST

IS NOT AS GOOD AS PAVA'S, I BUY THE BREAKFAST. I HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON . . . Carol Uhl

FAMOUS OMELETTES

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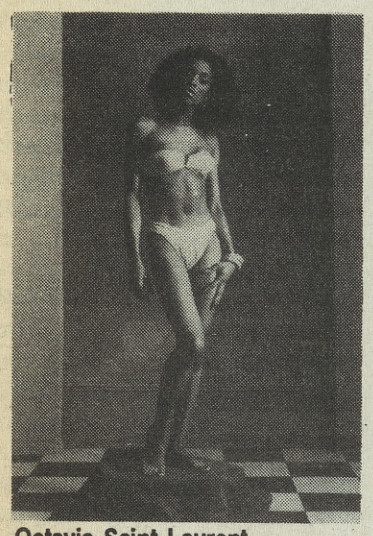
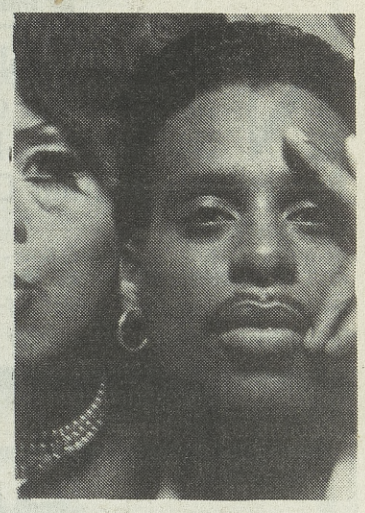
Tower Presents "Paris is Burning"



Octavia Saint Laurent.

The cast of "Paris is Burning" shows the look, feel, and taste of the movie.



Dorian Corey and Willi Ninja.

by **Chris Gerald**

Summer. Washington Square Park. 1985. Graceful young men contorting their bodies in the images of high fashion models.

"Voguing." Conceived not by pop icon Madonna but on the streets, parks and nightclubs of New York by Black and Latino gay men.

Filmmaker Jennie Livingston entered this world in 1985. Taking still pictures and collecting still interviews, she gathered reflections that would later evolve into perhaps the best documentary of its kind. Shot mostly in 1987, "Paris is Burning" is a view not just of subculture, nor is it a view of a "white girl going into a black neighborhood." It is a view of a group of articulate, intelligent individuals who have used their humor and fortitude to survive and rise above a world that for the most part excludes them.

It is a profile of Harlem's Ball circuit, complete with all its rituals, terminology and customs. The competitions are fierce and "realness" is the primary focus, whether it be men passing for women (Femme Queen Realness) or men passing for business executives in three-piece suits (Executive realness). It is an ironic look at a world that is based on imitating the mainstream collective that has barred them entrance.

The film never has the feel of a documentary, perhaps because Livingston has left out the white bread narration and let the narrative come from the people, fascinating people, real and funny who have made attitude an art form. ⚡⚡⚡⚡⚡

"Eating" A Serious Comedy of Women

Eating comforts me. Food unconditionally loves me. Food never criticizes me. I just joined Jenny Craig. How could I not see a movie called "Eating"? The only trouble was, about an hour later I was hungry.

The movie revolves around a party that Helene (Lisa Richards) is throwing to celebrate the occasion of her 40th birthday. (I just turned 40..this film was a double-edged sword) Also included in the celebration are Kate (Mary Crosby), a young housewife about to turn 30 and film agent Sadie (Marlena Giovi) about to hit the big five-oh.

Helene's house guest is Martine (the divine Nelly Alard), a French filmmaker making a television documentary on Southern California behavior. As she interviews her subjects (38 women in all), it becomes apparent how deeply affected each of the women are by food, love and each other.

Trouble is, in a world where homeless children go hungry, their obsessions with thinness seem a little shallow, and director/writer Henry Jaglom never addresses the real issues that affect women today.

⚡⚡⚡

Mary Crosby, Frances Bergen, Lisa Richards, Gwen Welles and Marina Gregory in "Eating."

⚡⚡⚡⚡⚡ Must see
⚡⚡⚡⚡ Excellent
⚡⚡⚡ Good
⚡⚡ O.K.
⚡ Poor

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"1000 Pieces of Gold"
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Athletes Come to Camillia Volleyball Games

by **Daryl Rice**

Nearly 100 volleyball players from all over the country will be in Sacramento Labor Day Weekend for the 4th Annual Camillia City Invitational.

The games will be at the north and south gyms of California State University Sacramento, Saturday, August 31 and Sunday September 1, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Teams representing Chicago, Seattle, Portland, San Diego, Long Beach, San Francisco and Sacramento (the "Capitals" and "O So Butch... Not") will compete in 3 divisions. This is the first year Sacramento's Camillia City Invitational is sanctioned by the North American Gay Volleyball Association.

Housing for the out of town athletes is needed. Anyone interested in housing an athlete for the weekend is encouraged to call Garry, housing coordinator, at 444-7571, for more information.

After enjoying the Rainbow Festival on 20th and K Streets, take a short trip down J Street to cheer for your teams.

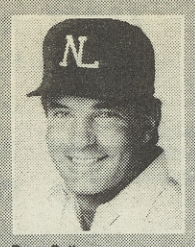
The teams thank the many groups and individuals who contributed materials and energy in making theis 4th Annual City Invitaional a success. Let's show the athletes Sacramento hospitality.

Across America, People Are Coming Out

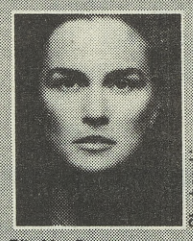
NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY, OCTOBER 11, 1991

Sandra J. Lowe
Attorney

Rod & Bob Jackson-Paris
International Model/
Professional Athlete



Dave Pallone
Author, *Behind the Mask*



Rita Mae Brown
Best-selling Author

Skrebneski

Mandy Carter
Director
N.C. Senate Vote '90

Marvin Liebman
Conservative Activist

Joe Steffan
Former Naval Midshipman

On October 11, thousands of people from all walks of life will be making a decision to lead more open gay and lesbian lives. They'll be coming out.

Telling the truth about yourself is a fundamental step in creating closer relationships with your family and friends. Below are a few ways you can come out.

- Talk with your brother, sister, father, mother or child, and let them know more fully who you are.
- Come out to a friend or colleague.
- Contact, join or contribute to a local or national lesbian/gay organization.
- Write to your elected officials to make sure they know they represent gay and lesbian constituents. One way of doing this is through the Speak Out Program of the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

Coming out is an ongoing process, one step at a time. Celebrate National Coming Out Day on October 11. Take your next step.

National Coming Out Day commemorates the October 11, 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Its goal is to increase the visibility of the 25 million lesbians and gays in the U.S. who cross all ethnic, racial, geographic and economic lines.

National Coming Out Day is a non-profit organization.
For more information, or to contribute: (505) 982-2558
P.O. Box 15524, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506

Paid for by: Tom Watson, James C. Hormel, David Russell, Edward Goodstein, Michael Epstein, Rob Eichberg, and graduates of The Experience.

MASSAGE

continued from page 13

a given individual.

It should be stressed that massage is not a replacement for a sound clinical work-up. Prolonged symptoms should always be a red flag that a physical examination is necessary. When a medical problem has been ruled out, then it is very probable that massage can help alleviate certain musculoskeletal problems. There are a small number of problems, however, that contraindicate massage.

In the clinical setting, many doctors have found massage an indispensable part of treatment. In many cases, massage has made a major difference in the long term recovery of many patients. It has allowed chiropractic adjustments to hold, given relief to patients with chronic muscle sprains, promoted healing of traumatized soft tissue, alleviated tension headaches and increases spinal ranges of motion. It is a natural non-invasive therapy that in many cases can be the key to returning a person to a pain-free, fully functioning individual.

MUSIC

continued from page 16

tive mood. I played the cassette as I walked to work, as I sat at my desk, while I walked on the K street mall at lunch time, I finally broke down an put in my Romanovsky and Phillips cassette and listened to men's music suffused with gay pride.

Mark Wiegle's guitar playing was good, his vocals were okay, and the lyrics were at times acceptable. However, when listening as all three were combined, at times, I didn't know whether to howl or take and overdose of valium. In this cassette, I imagine that there is some poignant message about gay pride and the men's music movement that I am missing. The name of the album is "One Good Reason," and try as I might, I could not find it.

AMNESTY

continued from page 9

article about a group of students who were arrested in Portugal merely for toasting to freedom). Amnesty's members include grass-roots organizations in fifty countries, and they've been very effective in helping "prisoners of conscience" (these are individuals who suffer torture and imprisonment for their political beliefs). A.I. promotes diplomatic pressure on behalf of non-violent victims of abuse: their massive letter writing campaigns aimed at brutal regimes have resulted in thousands of prisoners being freed or given new trials. In this way, each member of Amnesty can make a difference. In 1990 alone, 4,500 cases were handled and 1,600 people were released due to their efforts.

According to Stephen Souza of A.I. in Davis, "support of gay rights is something we've favored for a long time. It's really just another step toward fulfilling our charter statement, which is to fight for basic human rights abroad, regardless of a person's political, religious or sexual orientation." Three-fourths of the 1.1 million members of Amnesty live in the U.S., and the national vote to make gay rights an explicit part of their agenda was passed in 1990.

Now comes the larger task, which is to get other countries working with A.I. to vote the same way as the U.S., since action on behalf of prisoners takes place only after the international group has voted. Jean Iacino, of Amnesty in Sacramento, thinks "the main opposition will come from countries where homosexuality remains a taboo subject.

The outcome of the election will be known by September when the International Committee Meeting concludes in Japan.

Amnesty International has more than enough to do just helping political prisoners: it's an enormous task. Thus an attempt to add gay rights violations to their workload is more than a positive statement for homosexuals - it's a gutsy move. Cosette Thompson, the Deputy Director of the Western Region Office in San Francisco, admits "battling gay persecution will be a challenging project for A.I. These crimes are more difficult to document, since gay victims may fear reprisal and exposure more acutely than other prisoners of conscience."

Those who want to get involved with A.I. can write to Amnesty International, USA, 322 Eighth Ave., New York, New York 10001.

DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is September 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by September 5th.

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HEALTH CARE

continued from page 9

port rigorous infection control protocol, it went on to recommend that health care workers who are infected with the HIV or Hepatitis B virus (HBV) refrain from performing "exposure prone" procedures on patients. The term exposure prone which broadly means any invasive procedure that surgically enters the tissue, cavities or organs, would have to be specifically defined by medical/dental/surgical organizations on an individual basis. Under these conditions,infected health care workers could only perform invasive procedures under the guidance and permission of an "expert review panel" who would advise under what circumstances, if any, they may continue to perform these procedures. Such circumstances may include notifying prospective patients of the health care workers seropositivity beforehand, which in most cases would effect that practice negatively.

Subsequent to the new CDC recommendations, an amendment has been unanimously passed by the U.S.Senate and authored by Senators Dole, Mitchell, Helms, Kennedy and Hatch which would require states to adopt the new CDC guidelines within one year or risk losing federal funding.

AIDS advocates and civil rights groups are strongly opposed to such a policy as it is based on hysteria and fear. When one considers the voluminous research studies done on HIV/HBV transmission from health care workers to patients it becomes clear that prudent health policy must be founded on science and reason.

On July 25, 1990, the Journal of the American Medical Association published the results of an extensive study done after it was discovered that a Tennessee surgeon with HIV infection had performed invasive procedures up until September, 1988. The report concluded that of the 616 surgical patients tested, only one, an IV drug user, was found to be infected.

In fact, there are only five cases known where HIV was allegedly transmitted from doctor to patient and all five were traced back to the same dentist in Florida. There are no known cases of patients infected by a surgeon during surgery, according to the AIDS Action Council. The AIDS Action Counsel also points out that "...there is also evidence--the testimony of the dentist's own staff--that his equipment was not always properly sterilized, and that he reused equipment meant to be used only once."

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation issued the following statement: "After evaluation of over 180,000 AIDS cases in the U.S., the surveillance data demonstrates that existing infection control guidelines are effective and that the risk of HIV transmission from the infected health care worker to the patient is extremely remote."

Whatever the outcome on this highly sensitive issue, reason dictates that employment policy designed to reduce risk should not be sacrificed to responses driven by exaggerated public fears. One must question what will happen to HIV-infected patients who can't get treatment now because non-infected doctors will not treat them for fear of getting HIV themselves and losing their livelihood. In addition, low income, indigent persons in the inner cities in need of treatment will become victims of an already strained heath care delivery system because of the removal of highly skilled HIV-infected surgeons from the operating room?

"Prudence dictates that public health authorities, who too long have delayed attention to infection control practices and modern technology, remedy this, and recognize that the bedrock issue is one of improving infection control, not forcing qualified, productive health professionals out of practice," says Mark Barnes, a writer for *Law, Medicine and Health Care.*

DDI

continued from page 11

"the committee felt that the data, when combined with the gravity of the AIDS crisis and the fact, that no drug is approved for AIDS patients unable to take AZT, warrented approval for the drug," stated an FDA spokesperson.

In making its recommendation, the committee urged the initiation of further studies of ddI to further document the drug's effectiveness. In the United States, more than 20,000 individuals have received ddI through "expanded access" trials and in excess of another 2,500 individuals have received the drug in traditional clinical studies. "If there is no efficacy of the drug, the agency would withdraw it," FDA Commissioner David Kessler stated to the panel members. The spokesperson stated he was unsure when the FDA would formally approve ddI but promised that the agency would "act quickly."

TONGUES

continued from page 9

about black gay Americans, it is here and it has to be dealt with. In many ways America has not been ready for profound social changes in this nation's history. America was not ready for slavery to end when it did. America was not ready for women to take a position outside of the home instead of in the kitchen. America was not ready for blacks to sit in front seats of busses instead of the rear, and surely America, on one level, is not ready for gay black men to speak about the truths of their lives and to challenge the myths about who they are. Yet gays and lesbians are here and they are speaking and they are demanding a place in their families, in their homes and in their communities. And that demand has to be heard."

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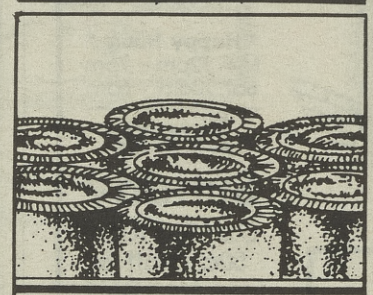

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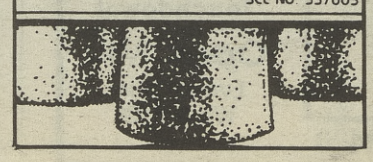

that GALLERY GUIDE!

Lite Rail Continues to Grow

by **D. Oldham**

International artists, local talent and multi-cultural events are just some of the offerings at the Lite Rail Gallery in downtown Sacramento.

Lite Rail Gallery (named for the tracks in front of the 12th Street location) has been providing Sacramento with a diverse view of art from its first exhibit "& Artists From Latvia" in 1989, to the recent show "Male Parts." Past exhibitions have also included the well received AIDS Quilt show and a photo documentary on Chernobyl. The gallery has also featured a steady stream of new and new-to-the-area artists, providing a showcase for new talent.

Changes are in the works according to owner/founder Michael Xepoleas, "Lite Rail would like to continue to develop young emerging artists and with the planned addition of a non-profit arts center we will be able to apply for grants to bring multi-cultural events to the Sacramento area." The non-profit space will be included in the current gallery location sometime in November. Xepoleas has been enthusiastic about promotion of his gallery and the artists at many community events including the recent Lambda Freedom Fair.

Benefit art auctions have also been a part of Lite Rail's past, and will continue with the October 13th art auction to benefit the Lambda Community Center. The Lambda auction will be Sunday, October 13 from 2-5pm and will feature works by Dexter Smith, Char Sylvestri, Anita Tonetti and others. Benefit auctions are a great way to add to your art collection and support a good cause.

Also housed within the gallery space is the studio of Michael Scott Jones. So when you visit Lite Rail you can take a peek at "work in progress" for Jones' October exhibition. The studio is open during gallery hours which are Wed - Sat, 11am - 5pm during exhibitions only. Call the gallery at 441-1013 to check times and dates. Receptions are held on Sundays, when parking is ample and free! So stop by the Gallery on 12th St. and say hello to Michael Xepoleas and his Lite Rail Gallery.

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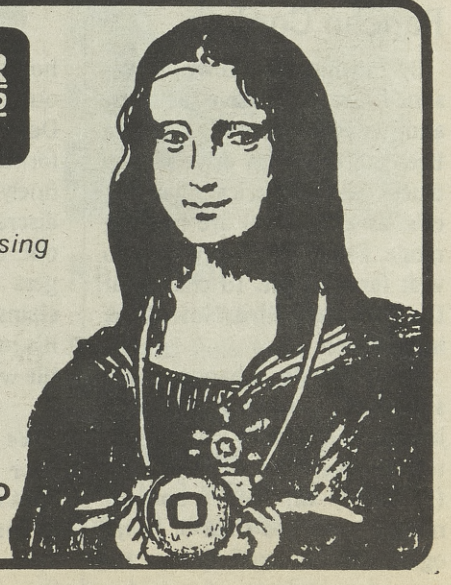

Graf'ik
1. Written, drawn, painted, engraved.
2. Vividly set forth.
Dĭ-zīn´
1. To form a plan for.
2. To create in an artistic manner.
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off THE EDGE

Urban Adventures: Life Among the Mutants

by **Stacy Selmants**

People thought we were insane to leave the comfy confines of suburban, upscale East Sacramento to move back downtown, until I reminded them of the expected onslaught of the Killer Bees, who are inching their way westward from Rancho Cordova.

By moving downtown, I reasoned, we will have at least another year before the Cordova Bees (all of whom drive pickup trucks with American flag decals, as a disguise) are in sting range. Especially if they have to wait for the light to change at the Fair Oaks Blvd./Howe Ave. intersection.

The lifestyle change from suburban to urban was slightly jarring, and actually was prompted by several non-Bee factors: (1) money (2) money and (3) money. We also tired of being ogled and harassed by our repressed neighbors, who had a nagging aversion to our occasional lapses of propriety and our lighthearted, flaming human sacrifices on the front lawn. ("Okay, gang, who feels up to Dancing with the Zippo?")

During the House Search several months back, I "viewed" about 1,200,937,999 various apartments, duplexes and homes looking for something in our new price range where Dorothea Puente WASN'T a former tenant. I developed a finely honed sense of consumer discretion as I learned to rule out overeager property managers with no teeth. ("Bloodstains on the stairs? No, no, no. It's just... heh, heh,... decorative tile we recently installed.")

We moved into the second floor of a house in midtown built in 1910 that had apparently been previously occupied by Teen Cat Choreographers, since the manager went into a tirade against "rowdy college kids," and the place had an overwhelming aroma of dancing kitties and beer. I negotiated over fragrance free carpets, air conditioning, and removal of all the abandoned appliances and severed tractor parts that served as lawn furniture for the squirrels (but, hey, no dead bodies, a plus!) and we moved in.

Meet the Neighbors

When you live in an eclectic neighborhood where the residents all have an uncanny resemblance to either Elvis or Elvira, it's much easier to live a carefree, "alternative" existence. In our suburban life, we were terrorized by our neighbor Ken-Bob, a demented middle aged closet case who had a straight name (Bob) and a gay name (Ken) and thought no one in the neighborhood could tell he was a screaming queen. (He never knew we could see him try on black lace party dresses through the back window.)

Ken-Bob used to scream at us (except when attractive boys were visiting) and we would watch him sneak up at night to leave cat poop on our porch. We retaliated and sprayed him with the hose one night, until we discovered that he LIKED it, so we stopped immediately. It was just that kind of special, tender relationship.

Now, however, we are the most mainstream people on the block. When you consider that we have redeveloped the place to feature a rooftop cabana with: a wading pool, outdoor stereo speakers, rainbow umbrellas, pink lawn flamingoes, and a plaster of paris multicolored head with a Charles Manson face that I found in the alley (Bud the Cabana God)--well, it's a frightening thought. But since our neighbors consist of a loosely collected family upstairs that has seen too many intermarriages between first cousins, a houseful of New Wave Jehovah's Witnesses (they play guitars and wear black berets) and Elizabeth, whose religion seems to be growing her toenails until God tells her to stop, I guess we do qualify as "normal." But there is an obvious difference between the two types of locales.

Typical Suburban Neighbors

* Joe Lawnmower: Will spend hours discussing lawn care with anyone who will listen. Is a bit behind the times; still has a "Kill the Ayatollah " sticker on his truck. Always insists on hosting lame neighborhood block parties on 4th of July, where 20 uneasy adults watch sweaty kids fight over three boxes of charcoal snakes.

* Everybody's Mom: This woman's kids left home the minute they were potty trained, and she's taking out her loneliness on YOU. She gives advice to everyone on everything, and usually it's wrong. "Well, I saw this man on Oprah take out his own tonsils with a kitchen spatula and a grapefruit knife. Why give those doctors any more of your hard earned money?"

> I saw a man on Oprah take out his tonsils with a kitchen spatula and a grapefruit knife.

* The Recluse: Usually known as "Old Man" or "Old Lady" (fill in last name) the recluse is rarely seen, and weeds and bushes covering the house act as a privacy screen. Discovering his real identity preoccupies the neighborhood kids until they go through puberty and discover sex, when their interest wanes. Finally he/she dies, and the estranged family opens the door to find the house full, floor to ceiling, with valuable and interesting merchandise from the Home Shopping Network.

Typical Urban Neighbors

* The Eternal Student: Is always on a new and exciting career path, usually a career that he found on a matchbook cover. His Jerry Brown method of self-discovery explains why he is 47 and is still living on Pop-Tarts in the same studio apartment with a dirty mattress on the floor. Currently he is very enthusiastic at having found a new direction, and is proud to share with you his exam scores from the "So You Want To Be a Gynecologist?" Home Study Correspondence School. Warning: do NOT allow him to use you for homework.

* The Screamer: If you live in the city, soon you will learn to turn a deaf ear to sirens, trains, and the occasional gunshot, assuming that it's not in your living room. But you will always live near someone who screams. If it is an irregular occurrence, be tolerant. However, if it's a daily happening, then you can fight back. I suggest an accordion. Offkey renditions of "Lady of Spain" are better than bullets, and usually are only considered misdemeanors.

* The Cat Lady: Usually has several dozen cats, and adopts all the rest of the strays in the tri-state area. Elizabeth is our Cat Lady. We think it's because she is lonely and because with her toenails she understands the cats' problems of keeping their claws razor sharp. (Sometimes, though, we have to remind her to brush away those tell-tale Friskies crumbs.)

It's never easy to adjust to abrupt changes in ambiances and a move from the 'Burbs to the Urban Jungle. But we've adapted, evolved, and cherish all the neighborhood kooks and maniacs. If nothing else, it makes us all feel terribly sane...

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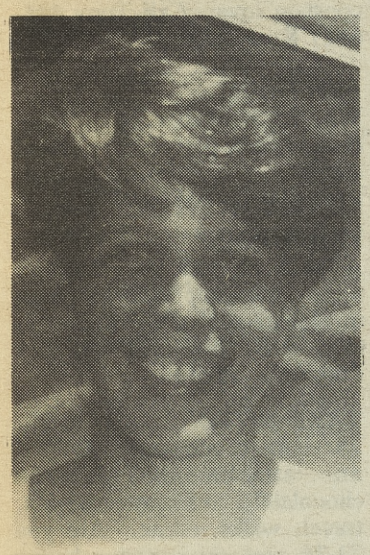
by **Tom Romanotto**

When Did You Know You Were Gay?



Susan Doerfer

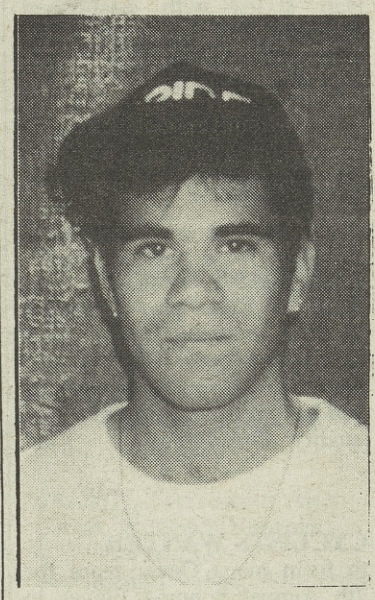
When I was 12 and my best friend asked me if I had ever kissed a boy, I said no and she said she wanted to teach me how, we kissed all night long!

Bob Solomon

I think when I was about four!

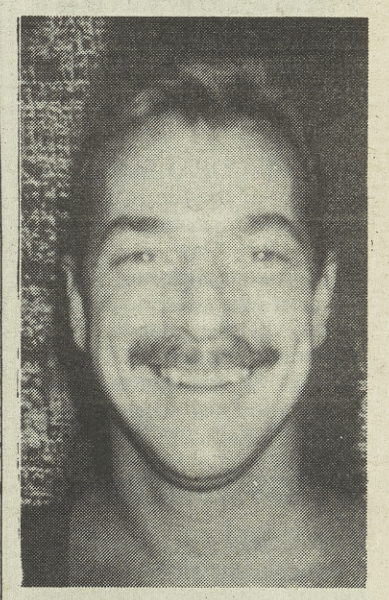
Rozella Samaniego

I think I really knew I was gay when I was in the third grade, I had a crush on one of my schoolmates, her name was Linda.



Chris Ochoa

All my life!!



Kent Hull

When I was 16 the Stonewall riots were happening in New York. It gave me a word to go along with how I was feeling. It was a big awakening, it was nice. I suddenly felt like I wasn't alone.

Dykes To Watch Out For

Clarice Clifford and the Supremes
©1991 BY ALISON BECHDEL
HAVING AT LONG LAST GRADUATED FROM LAW SCHOOL, OUR FRIEND CLARICE IS PREPARING ASSIDUOUSLY FOR THE BAR EXAM.
115
UNNNH!
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WHY? WHY DID I EVER WANT TO BECOME A LAWYER? I SHOULDA GONE TO COSMETOLOGY SCHOOL LIKE MY MOTHER SAID.
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HEY, COME ON! WHERE'S THAT FIERY RADICAL I FELL IN LOVE WITH? ARE YOU GONNA LET A FEW LITTLE SETBACKS GET YOU DOWN? SOON YOU'LL BE CLERKING FOR A DISTRICT COURT JUDGE! AREN'T YOU EXCITED?
UNNNH!
NO DANCING WITHOUT G-STRINGS, PASTIES
HEY, IF THE BABY'S A BOY WE CAN CALL HIM THURGOOD, OKAY?
ANTONIA! YOU'RE NOT EVEN PREGNANT YET! BESIDES, HOW CAN WE EVEN THINK OF BRINGING A CHILD INTO THIS SOCIETY?
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT! IN 20 YEARS, YOU'LL BE ON THE SUPREME COURT, BABE!
YEAH, RIGHT. THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER WILL BE PRESIDENT. I'M SURE HE'LL BE EAGER TO APPOINT AN EMBITTERED, BLACK LESBIAN JUDGE.
WELL, MAYBE HE WOULD IF YOU WERE IN REALLY GOOD SHAPE. WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE 'Y'? IN 20 YEARS YOU SHOULD BE PRETTY PUMPED UP!
UNNNH!
OR BETTER YET, SAVE YOUR MONEY AND BENCH PRESS THESE BOOKS.
COF!
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■ ROOMMATES

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GF looking for roommate, gay/lesbian preferred. 2 bdrm. 1 ba., $300 per month includes util. & cable. Animals ok. Has artist workspace and is close to Sac. City College. 455-7290.

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ASIAN MEN
Safe GWM seeks monogamous GAM. I'm 27, 6', 170 lbs, blond/blue, attractive, kind, honest, shy. Love movies, music, theater, romance. Hate drugs, smokers, alcoholics. P.O. Box 3533, Citrus Heights, 95611.

HONEST, CARING
Handsome GWM, 30's. Sincere, mature, happy, intellegent, considerate, sensitive, supportive, trim, masculine, healthy, comfortable w/self. Many interests. Laughter, positive attitude, quiet sharing, heartfelt love/affection, committment, spirituality. Nonsmoker/drugs. P.O. Box 73232, Davis 95617.

PERSONAL
Older man wants someone to touch and be my master, 18-25 slender. Earl 456-5691

SEEKS TOP MAN
Hispanic male, 30, bottom seeks aggressive top man 18-35 only. Muscular, domin-ant, loving and handsome, straight or bisexual, well endowed for constant love. Call Tony 484-6527 Kind only!

FUN DUDE
WM, 35, bartender, blond/blue, trim, decent party guy to meet similar. P.O.Box 297, Roseville Ca 96511-0297

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Asian 5'5", 135 lbs., healthy, seeks friendship with gay men in Sacramento. Race unimportant. P.O. Box 591343, San Francisco, 95159.

TAKE NOTE!
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PEN PALS WANTED
Incarcerated GWM, HIV+, seeks sincere pen pals. Forget what you have heard about inmates. No money involved. Clyde Burgoon 2123. CMC EAST CDC# E-74818. P.O.Box 8101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93409-0001.

■ PERSONALS / WOMEN

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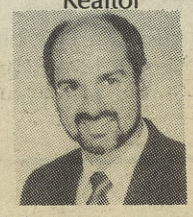

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■ CAFES

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Gelato Robi, 2317 J Street, Sacramento. 442-7624.

Greta's Cafe', 1831 Capitol Ave. Sacramento. 442-7382.

Muffins Etc., 1404 28th St. Sacramento, 452-1829.

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Susan's Mixed Bag, 1008 24th Street, Sacramento, 442-3938.

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Ce Eshelman, M.F.C.C., LI# 27146, 1731 I Street, Suite 201, Sacramento, 444-2344.

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Sandra Fields, Ph.D. #LCS3725, 2740 Fulton Ave. Suite 120, Sacramento. 484-6376.

Joan Frazzini, LG#9415, 1731 I Street, Sacramento. 447-9114.

Bruce Gunn M.F.C.C., #MM19480, 418 Alhambra Blvd., Sacramento. 443-7171.

Bob Hall M.F.C.C., LI #MU19878, 355 Watt Ave. Suite 180, Sacramento. 971-1418.

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Karen Myers M.F.C.C., 1731 I Street, Sacramento. LI# MFC25059. 329-3616.

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Elements, 2228 J Street, Sacramento, Pam 447-8931.

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■ OPTOMETRIST

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Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, Sacramento. 442-0185.

Rainbow Real Estate Professionals, Box 214586 Sacramento. 921-6642 or 484-6630.

Sacramento AIDS Foundation, 1900 K Street, Suite 200, Sacramento. 448-2437.

SACWN, Sacramento Area Career Women's Network, P.O. Box 661332, Sacramento, 95866. 486-8985.

■ PARALEGAL

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Wizard of Dogs, pet grooming. 5772 Broadway, Sacramento 457-3647.

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Snap 1 Hour Photo, Sutter Sq. Galleria, 2919 K Street, Sacramento. 444-7627.

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First Impression Printing, 2330 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento. 737-0115.

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J. Prassa Printers, 3655 J Street, Sacramento. 452-3374.

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Larry Cook, Realtor, Cook Realty 763-1730 or 448-0705.

Tom Morris, Montgomery Realty, 4116 Manzanita Ave. 481-6360.

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Jayne Rountree, Rountree Real Estate, Sacramento. 921-6642.

Thomas Vasques, RE/MAX Professionals,11000 Olson Dr., Suite 107, Rancho Cordova. 631-6377 or 482-8484.

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N.Y. Hero, 5601 Watt Ave. #2, North Highlands. 348-8383.

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631-0300

Rick Oldham

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RAINBOW REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Membership is open to all who have a relationship with the real estate industry and support our stated goals. For information contact Co-Chairs Jayne Rountree, 921-6642 or Jake Steuble, 484-6630.

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